



- E-Mail Alert System
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- American Heritage Girls* (*Affiliated*)
- Craft Club
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- Used book sales
- Member's Library of homeschool reference material
- And more!

Information About The Tennessee Homeschooling Law

- Tennessee has a compulsory school attendance statute. This means that parents and legal guardians are required to see that the children under their care are educated in a manner approved by the State of Tennessee.
- A child who will be six (6) years of age on or before September 30 must be enrolled in a State-approved school at the start of the school year which begins in the calendar year in which the child becomes six. The child must continue in school until that child becomes seventeen (17) years of age or until obtaining a diploma.
- A parent who intends to home-school a child may register that child with the Local Education Agency (LEA) or with a Church-Related School (CR5).

This is only a brief summary of the highlights of Tennessee Law concerning homeschooling.

More information can be obtained from

- Your local school board
- The **Smoky Mountain Home Education Association (SMHEA)** (865)675-3073 www.smhea.org
- **The Homeschool Resource File at the Blount Co. Library**—ask the librarian in the Children's Section for its location.
- Online at **Tennessee Home Ed** at <http://tnhomeed.com>
- Or from the **Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA)** www.hsllda.org • (540)338-5600



*“As for me and my house,
we will serve the Lord.”*

Joshua 24:15

Blount Home Education Association

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www.BHEA.net

Blount Home Education Association (BHEA) is an association of independent homeschooling families that has been established to promote and encourage home education in Blount County.

Blount Home Education Association (BHEA)

In just about 15 years, BHEA has grown from just a few families, meeting occasionally in each other's homes, to close to 200 families.

The Purpose of this organization is to provide support, information and encouragement to homeschooling families. We seek to provide programs and activities that enrich the educational standards established by the family.

We propose that all our efforts be consistent with the following principles:

- We place a strong emphasis on spiritual maturity and development of Christian character along with the other educational disciplines.
- We seek to plan programs, classes and other activities for our children that support a Christ-centered education with a Biblical world and life view.
- BHEA is open to all families who choose to homeschool. All members are expected to respect and abide by the BHEA conduct and dress codes.
- BHEA shall actively encourage public expressions of Christian faith such as prayer, personal testimonies, or Biblical teaching. BHEA shall not encourage public expressions of other religions.

BHEA holds an annual "Kick-Off" meeting each August. Members can sign up for enrichment classes and other activities during this meeting.

BHEA keeps members informed and connected through a monthly newsletter, an E-Alert System for urgent notices, and the BHEA Yahoo group for general questions, tips and fellowship.

Annual BHEA dues are \$25 per family.



Enrichment Class Program

BHEA's enrichment class program is really the heart of BHEA. Becoming involved in this program gives your children an opportunity to take classes that might be more difficult to teach at home, or are better taught in a group setting. And, it is a great opportunity for both parents and children to meet other homeschoolers.

The program for pre-K through 6th grade will support your homeschooling efforts with a wide variety of fun, yet educational, classes. Art, karate, Spanish, science, and creative writing are just a few of the classes offered.

High School classes are "credit" classes and usually include classes that are more difficult to teach at home such as biology, chemistry, physics, algebra, and driver's education.

For those of you with middle school age children, there are classes in both the elementary group and the high school group that would be appropriate—we just have things divided into these 2 groups for administrative purposes.

Most of our enrichment classes are taught by parents. If you have an area of expertise or special interest, please consider teaching a class. This helps keep costs down and it helps us continue to offer a wide variety of classes.

For current class schedules and more information, please visit

www.BHEA.net

New to Homeschooling?

Are you just thinking about beginning to homeschool your children? BHEA has several ways to help provide you with the information that you need to make this important decision. First, we invite you to join BHEA. While we are a Christian based group, we are not "Christian exclusive" -- we just ask that you respect the policies outlined in our Member's Handbook. Our goal is to promote homeschooling and to serve the needs of families choosing to make this important commitment.

BHEA maintains a "Homeschool Resource File" at the Blount County Library. It has a good selection of resources to help you learn more about homeschooling. This file is located in the children's section of the library.

Once you join BHEA, you will also have access to our own BHEA Library of homeschool reference material. There is no charge for members to borrow books from this library.

A member of BHEA will be happy to meet with you to discuss homeschooling and try to answer any questions that you might have. For more information, please leave a message at **(865)856-6249** or visit our website—www.BHEA.net

BHEA also holds an annual program especially for those just thinking about homeschooling. Homeschool 101 is a free program that is held each spring. Talks cover the basics of homeschooling, and members bring their curriculum for you to look at and are available to answer your questions.

There is also a large Homeschool Curriculum Fair held at Farragut High School in Knoxville each year in mid-June. There are lots of seminars on various aspects of homeschooling as well as a great selection of curriculum vendors.