



Currents

February 2010

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Work Matters

By Kevin Bullock

The current economy has put intense financial pressures on the average homeschooling family, even more so than mainstream families, because most of us deal with the single-income dynamic. In our area we know of many out-of-work dads due to downsizing and closures. Work is hard to find and some dads are going back to school to retool, others are trying their hand at building a business.

Last year I was very encouraged by Steve Riddell at a homeschool conference in Seattle, where the economic pressures on homeschooling families mirrors the situation in Oregon. The topics and principles Mr. Riddell covered gave many fathers ideas, hope, and renewed energy in dealing with the development of their families and their businesses.

I am very excited that OCEANetwork is bringing Steve Riddell to Oregon to speak to us at our Winter Family Discipleship Event. A homeschooling father of four, Steve is also a successful businessman and coach. He has extensive experience speaking to Fortune 500 companies about effective management and increasing revenues. ***Large companies pay thousands of dollars for the information that we will get to hear for the price of a fast food meal.*** All his wisdom is based on scriptural principles, and will definitely have a great impact in your spheres of family and business.

There were many principles I took from his sessions, brought home, applied and passed on to others. This has helped me be more effective in my family, profession, and ministries. I have seen his tips on job search techniques, including many new ideas you wouldn't think of, put into successful practice right here in Oregon!

His leadership session on "coaching" as a parent was very useful. As the dad of two teens with two more coming up, I want to know how to motivate them best. Does your teenager shut off when you try to correct him? Does he act like he's heard it all before, yet struggles to practice what you've taught him? Mr. Riddell can help you discern when it is time to instruct; time to train, working alongside your teen; and time coach from the sidelines.

Good communication skills are a vital commodity. Do you ever struggle with presenting yourself or your vision to others? Whether you're making business calls, or explaining your way of life, do you have the feeling you're trying to convince people to do something they don't want to do? Do you have trouble overcoming objections or concerns? Mr. Riddell can help you overcome the connotations of the term "selling," and help you shift your mentality to helping others with your vision.

This event will help improve your business with new ideas, but will also help give you ideas to help disciple your family. See you there!

OCEANetwork Winter Family Discipleship Event

Biblical Leadership and Entrepreneurial Principles for Family and Business

February 20, 2010

9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.,

Santa Clara Church of Christ,
175 Santa Clara Ave., Eugene

See page 3 of Currents for complete information and registration form for the Winter Family Discipleship Event.

2010 Special Legislative Session Mini-lobby Event for Home Educators

February 10, 2010

February 1st marks the beginning of the 2010 Special Legislative Session of the Oregon State Legislature. Join OCEANetwork board members on February 10th for a friendly visit to our State Capitol. This is a low-key event where we will meet with legislators and their staff to let them know we value our freedom to homeschool. We also look forward to helping familiarize homeschool families with our state government. Bring your whole family. This is a great way to introduce your children to civics – and a great way to introduce legislators to homeschool children and their parents. *Please let us know if you would like to attend.*

Contact Wes Butler at wesofabiqua@juno.com or 503-873-3159. Wes will let you know where and when to meet with the OCEAN board members on the 10th.

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Visit the OCEANetwork website at www.oceanetwork.org to view a calendar of events, to find a support group, to sign up for a free magazine published by OCEANetwork and to read articles and information of encouragement.

The 2010 Oregon Christian Home Education Conference

June 25 & 26, 2010

Oregon Convention Center, Portland

The 2010 Oregon Christian Home Education Conference will feature inspiring nationally known speakers, a huge exhibit hall, and the Used Curriculum Exchange.

Rick and Marilyn Boyer, parents of 14 children and long-time home educators, will be our featured speakers. They will be joined by a host of national and local speakers who will provide many workshops of interest to home educators at all stages of homeschooling.

The annual graduate recognition is held in conjunction with the conference so those still on the homeschool journey will be encouraged to keep on keeping on.

Online registration will open on April 5th.

Homeschool Day: Engineering

Feb. 26, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum, McMinnville

Discover ways of applying knowledge in a design engineering challenge. Special speakers from University Engineering Departments and other participating groups will make presentations for all ages. Classes are divided into two levels of

Calling All Seniors:

Statewide Graduate Recognition Ceremony

Oregon Convention Center
Portland, June 26th

For complete information go to the calendar page at
OCEANetwork.org.

Registration deadline: May 15

Space is limited.

First-come, first-served.

students, K-4, and 5-12. Cost is \$15 for nonmembers, \$8 for members. Pre-registration is suggested. For more information: sprucegoose.org or contact Cory Fuqua by phone at 503-434-4185 ext. 4463 or cory.fuqua@sprucegoose.org.

“Raising Kids to Do Hard Things” Parenting Seminar

March 19 – 20, Portland

Homeschool pioneer and father of seven, Gregg Harris presents the simple but powerful approach he and his wife have taken to make their home a place for "raising kids to do hard things." In this fast-paced seminar attendees will learn what works... and what doesn't. For cost, registration and more information see website: dohardthingstogether.com.

Training up Workers at Home

By Kelly Ling

Have you ever thought about what you are teaching your kids about working at home? Do you ever think about how your attitude about working at home will affect your children's ideas of whether or not they can work at home? Homeschooling gives you an excellent opportunity to train your children to work at home. One thing my children have learned is that a good wage can actually be made by working at home and being your own boss. In these days when it seems that families HAVE to have two incomes, a mom working at home could really help with the family finances.

My children have learned that working at home is HARD WORK, sometimes harder work than going into an office every day. When you work at home, you usually have to work longer hours or odd hours. Sometimes it's hard to get motivated to do that.

We have tried to teach our children the truth to I Thessalonians

3:10, *“For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, If any will not work, neither let him eat.”*

This verse is often discussed in our house. When they are required to do their own chores around the house, and I get complaints, then I remind them of what God says, *“If any will not work, neither let him eat.”* It really brings things down to their basic level – daily sustenance. It teaches them that we don't work just to obtain money to buy neat things – we work because God says that in order to eat, a man MUST work.

How can you give your children an opportunity to learn the benefits of working at home first hand? Let them start their own business! If your children are older, early teens and up, you do them a great service by helping them start a business of their own. Some of the skills they will receive are scheduling, budgeting, financial training, people skills, and more. What better way to prepare them for the real world?

Years ago, I purchased a book that my children have read again and again called Better Than a Lemonade Stand! Small Business Ideas for Kids by then fifteen-year-old Daryl Bernstein. It is a great book to give ideas to your children! Some of the ideas listed include: babysitting broker, car washer, dog walker, flyer distributor, garage can mover, party helper, price shopper, silver polisher . . . and the list goes on! Remember, as homeschoolers and Christians, our children are in constant training until they are no longer under our care. Don't neglect this important part of your children's training and help them become leaders and productive members of our society!

Kelly Ling is a work-at-home, homeschooling mother of five. She has mentored many homeschooling and work-at-home moms over the past fifteen years. Reprinted with permission. <http://www.homeschool-articles.com/training-up-workers-at-home/>

OCEANetwork Winter Family Discipleship Event
Biblical Leadership and Entrepreneurial Principles
for Family and Business
February 20, 2010, 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Santa Clara Church of Christ, 175 Santa Clara Ave., Eugene, Oregon

OCEANetwork is proud to invite fathers, sons, and their families to a one-day seminar focusing on developing leadership and entrepreneurial skills within the family. In a time of economic unrest and difficulty, understanding biblical principles about business and leadership can help equip families to more than survive – they can thrive. Presented by Steve Riddell, this day will be filled with practical tips to take home and implement. Gather insightful ideas regarding leadership for use in your business and family.

Steve Riddell, homeschooling father of four, is a dynamic speaker, trainer, coach, manager and author with a reputation for inspiring others to greater degrees of excellence. Currently he & his family live in Houston, Texas, where he serves as Vice-President of Global Custom Commerce. Several OCEAN board members heard Steve at the Christian Heritage Conference last spring and were very impressed by how practical his message was for family living, entrepreneurship, looking for work or being an employee. We hope and pray that this will have a positive impact on your family, your business, and in all your family's future entrepreneurial ventures.

Seminar Sessions :

Essential Skills Necessary to Become a Leader – What does it mean to lead? Learn how you can develop and hone skills to be an effective leader in your family and entrepreneurial ventures.

How to Use “Selling Skills” in Everyday Life – As believers we have the responsibility of sharing Christ with others that cross our path and as such we “sell” ourselves and our vision all the time – sometimes very unsuccessfully. Learn about the essential ingredients in any “selling” situation.

Required “Influence” Skills for Entrepreneurs – Christians are to be the influencers in the world around them. This session covers some of the most important skills needed for any successful venture.

Coaching for Success - Learn the four-step process of guiding your children into the role of stand-alone leaders. Discover how to coach anyone in business or in your family to “substantially” improve their skills and ability.

Cost: \$10 per person or \$20 per family. (*Note: Recommended for ages 10 to adult, but younger children may attend with parents.*) Pre-ordered onsite box lunches available for extra \$5 per person. Please pre-register by sending a check and registration form to OCEANetwork, 17985 Falls City Rd., Dallas, OR 97338. **Scholarships are available.** We'd like every family who wants to attend to come. Please call 503-787-3512 to request a scholarship.

For more information contact Kevin Bullock at bullocks@oceanetwork.org.

OCEANetwork Winter Family Discipleship Event
Registration Form

Last Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Name(s) of Attendees: _____

Number attending from your family: _____

Email address for event notifications

Would you like to receive other OCEANetwork email alerts? _____

Cost:

\$10 per person or \$20 per family _____

+

Boxed Lunch Preorder \$5 per person

Number of lunches _____ X \$5 = _____

Total _____

Please make checks to OCEANetwork and mail with registration form to 17985 Falls City Rd., Dallas, OR 97338