

The Chronicles of Homeschooling

Volume 3. Issue 1

September 2009

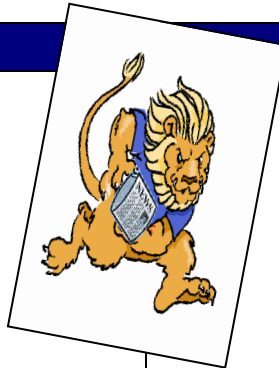
THE ORIGINS OF HALLOWEEN

By Shayne O.

It's nearly Halloween, that time of year when we dress up in fun costumes and walk the neighborhood begging for candy, then eat it until our stomach's hurt.

Halloween's origins date back to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain (which is pronounced sow-in). 2,000 years ago, Celtic people from the areas of Ireland, the United Kingdom, and northern France, celebrated their new year on November 1st. This was the end of summer and the harvest and the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a time of year that was often associated with human death. Celts believed that on the night before the new year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred. On the night of October 31st they celebrated Samhain when they believed the spirits of the dead came back to cause mischief, destroy crops, and help the Celtic priests called Druids to make predictions about the future.

To celebrate the event, the Druids built large sacred bonfires where people came to burn crops and offer sacrifices to the Celtic gods. During the celebrations the Celts wore costumes much like we do



today and attempted to tell each other's fortunes. When the celebration was over, they re-lit their fireplaces from the sacred bonfire to protect their homes during the coming winter.

By 42 A.D., the Romans had captured most of the Celtic territory. During the 400 years of Roman rule over the Celtic lands, two Roman festivals called Feralia and Pamona were combined with the Celtic celebration of Samhain. Feralia, celebrated in late October was a day when the Romans commemorated the passing of the dead. The celebration of Pamona was a day to honor the Roman goddess of fruit and trees, named Pamona. The symbol for Pamona was the apple. By including this celebration in to Samhain is probably how bobbing for apples became a tradition for us at Halloween today.

By the 800's Christianity had spread into the Celtic lands. Pope Boniface IV designated November 1st All Saint's Day, a time to honor saints and martyrs in an attempt to replace the Celtic festival of the dead with a related but church-sanctioned holiday. It was then called All-hallows and the night before it, the night of Samhain was then called All-hallow's eve, eventually becoming today's Halloween.

So as you have fun dressing up and pretending to be someone else this October 31st, remember how our night of fun, pranks and candy began!

Zilpo Campgrounds By Jonathan B.

Have you ever wanted to just pack up on a moments notice and go camping? That's pretty much what I did on the night of Sept.12th. My friend called me up and asked if I wanted to go camping, I accepted and we were on our way. It was about an hours drive from Lexington.

The campground itself was somewhat hard to find. We spent two hours going up and down trails looking for it which was quite an adventure! Once we found it we checked in, and set up our tents. The name Zilpo was the name of the town that is now in the lake, it was flooded a few hundred years back. The campgrounds are right next to Cave Run Lake so all we had to do was change into swim suits and walk down to the on-site beach. That night we had an enjoyable meal of corn, potatoes, and bratwurst along with many s'mores. During the night I slept on an air mattress outside and, surprisingly, didn't get bitten by mosquitoes very much. I did get awakened by my friend's dog when she started barking during the night. By the time the trip was over we were wishing we hadn't brought her. Naturally, because I didn't get bitten, my friend got bitten three times on the face, arm, and neck. I had fun teasing him about that.

In the morning we went back to the beach to swim one last time. I skipped rocks and

threw a stick for the dog most of the time. My friend decided to bury me in the sand right before we were leaving and tried to get his mom to video tape me bursting out but she pressed the button to start it at the end of the whole thing, so all she got was a few seconds of me brushing myself off. Talk about a wasted effort. After that, we packed back into the car and drove off never to be heard from again... just kidding, we stopped and got Subway for lunch and then finished driving home. Overall, I think it was a very fun trip and I would recommend it to anyone who is looking for a nice place to camp.

Civil War Days

by Joshua B. (age 5)

I went to the civil war place. We all went together. I saw a goat. They had guns with bayonets. Those are the swords they put on. I had a hot dog. Then we saw the cannons. We saw sword fighting in a fake war. I saw Abraham Lincoln and got his autograph. I was listening to the man sing then we left.



FOOTBALL FUN By Eliya R.

On September 11, 2009, at R.L Griend Stadium, Bryan Station High went up against Western High School from Louisville. Bryan Station was down 2 to 16 at half time. It looked like they were going to lose. If they lost, they would not

be undefeated anymore. They came back in the second half and won 21-17!

It was an exciting game. Everyone was cheering "GO BRYAN STATION!!!"

VANCE'S ART CORNER



BOOK REVIEW by Rachel H.

The Secret of the Old Clock

By Carolyn Keene

After meeting a small girl and her two aunts, Nancy Drew tries to find a later will of their good friend Josiah Crowley. But the earlier will is already in use and the money goes to rude Tophams.

So Nancy hunts for the later will. A moving van almost hit the small girl, Judy, and Nancy suspects the people in it of stealing from the aunts.

A big adventure happens for Nancy in this book. Many people are poor and in need of

Josiah's money. So will Nancy find the will?

A Fishing Paradise

By Clayton R.

This summer my family went to a motocross training facility in Sanford North Carolina. While my brothers were training I spent most of my time fishing in the pond there. Every time I cast out my line I would instantly catch a big bass. For bait I was using large artificial worms. After the training was over everyone came down to the pond to fish. We all had a really good time. But we were super careful around the edge because there was a really big biscuit eating alligator that also lived in the pond.



Movie **Review**

By Rachel H.

In the movie Coraline, Coraline Jones finds a secret door after moving house. But there are just bricks. Coraline discovers that the mice open it. She follows the mice to a very special land.

Instead of her mean parents, she has very kind parents in this land. They make her

favorite foods and make up a song about her.

But when Coraline refuses to live with them her “other mother” gets worse than her old parents. Does she escape?



1st Day of Co-op

By Zachary W.

The first day of BHLC was great in my opinion, and this is how my day went. We got at co-op around 9:15 and helped with setup, putting chairs at tables, making sure all lights are on, etc. Then I played with my friends, met new people, and ran around. And then at 10 o'clock, I went to my first class of the year.

My 10:00 class was geography and we learned about the basic things you need to know to write a geography paper. Then went over the rules of co-op and signed our names and all that fun stuff. Then we got our assignments and then left for the next class.

My 11:00 class was science, and was very cool. We learned how to take notes, about geology and the 3 basic types of rocks, igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic. Then we ate lunch and talked to our friends, and went to film club.

My last class was Theatre, which my mom teaches. My mom told us what we were going to do for this semester, like when we were going to audition, or when to start working on the script. We also did charades sort of, to see how good we could all act and have fun! We also learned what our play was going to be, it is called, Wipeout! At the end of the day I helped clean up, played some more, and left.

I Love the Library!

By Eliya R.

Everybody should go to the library because there are fun activities and nice librarians.

Here is one of the fun activities a science camp. It's for kids ages 8-12. It's Monday September 28th from 3-4 p.m. They will be using index cards to build structures to see if they can hold cookies and yes, you can eat them after words!

There are lots of nice librarians there's Miss Mary the children's librarian. She became a librarian because she loves books and she loves kids. Miss Mary said if you have ideas for other activities please let her know.

Chicago

By Remi A.

This past spring we visited Chicago. We visited almost every fun thing there and walked to almost everything. Downtown Chicago has the 4th tallest building in the world called the Sears tower. On the Navy Pier they're about to build a new building taller than the Sears Tower called the Spire.

My favorite thing that we visited was the planetarium. At the planetarium we learned about the planets, the sun, asteroids, and meteors. It also had a great view of Lake Michigan. My favorite thing I learned is that in a few million years our sun will shrink to near the size of the Earth.

We also visited the Field Museum, right next door to the planetarium. I learned about Sue, the T- Rex, the most complete

dinosaur skeleton ever found. Only one bone is missing from her. They also had an exhibit about the 5 mass extinctions in Earth's history. The one we know most about is the dinosaurs' extinction. They died of an asteroid hitting the Earth about 60 million years ago which caused dust to fly up and block the sun.

We then rode the city bus along Lake Michigan to the Lincoln Park zoo. We visited the reptile house, the cat house. There was an Australian exhibit that housed Wallabies, spiders, snakes, lizards, and turtles from Down Under. It was an amazing zoo and best of all it was free.

Finally, we visited the Science and Industry Museum. The Harry Potter traveling exhibit was there. We walked through and saw many costumes and props that were actually used in the movies. We also looked at all the old and new ways of travel such as planes, trains, and the only ever captured German U-boat which we toured. It was a very tight living space and over 50 sailors lived on it for 3 months or more at a time.



**COOKING WITH
SHAYNE**

By Shayne O.

Pepperoni Pizza Burger

This is one of my favorite burgers. It serves 4 - You will need 4 hamburger patties

Now for the toppings you will need:

pizza sauce
Mozzarella cheese
pepperoni
2 pinches dried oregano
1/2 pinch dried chili pepper
1 pinch ground black pepper

For the bun:
4 hamburger buns
butter

Add the oregano, pepper and chili to the pizza sauce and mix through.

The patties should preferably be broiled under a grill.

Grill/broil the patties until half cooked and flip them over. Immediately spoon the sauce onto the patties, cover liberally with cheese, top off with the pepperoni (the quartered slices makes it easier on a small surface) and put the lid on the barbecue. The burgers are ready when the cheese has melted.

Split the rolls and toast the cut surfaces lightly (under grill, on barbecue or in a dry pan) just before the patties are done. Spread a little butter on the toasted surfaces, add the patty and enjoy a great tasting Pepperoni Pizza Burger.

BON APPETITE!

Destin Beach

By Zachary W.

I went to the beach in Destin, Florida last week. My grandparents and aunt were also there on vacation. To get there, I spent 11 hours in my car watching TV, playing my Nintendo DS, reading my Warriors book, but mostly sleeping until we got there.

The day we arrived, we went to the beach, but it was not too good because it started raining hard as soon as we got there. We only stayed for about 5 minutes. Soon, my mom, sister, grandma, and aunt went shopping at the mall so I got in bed and watched TV. Then, we ate at the Bonefish Cafe with our family.

Our cousins live in Gulf Breeze, which is only about 45 minutes from Destin. We got back in the car to visit them for the afternoon. I went on a boat trip with my 2 little cousins (ages 2 and 5) and our new twin cousins both age 3 months. On the way, the 2 year old, Clayton, fell asleep while driving the boat with his dad. It was very funny! We stopped the boat at a restaurant that was on the water and ate lunch. After that we went back to our cousins' house and played around until we left to see our grandma.



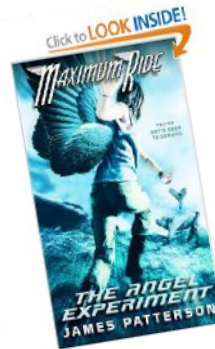
The day before last of vacation, we went to the beach again, and got to actually play. Me and my grandma made a sand castle with 2 layers of walls and a huge moat 3

inches deep! I also went in the ocean and got hit by huge waves. Before I left the beach, I got a bucket of water and dumped on the castle. At the last day of vacation, here I am writing this article for the school paper, but the rest of the vacation was great!

MAXIMUM RIDE: THE ANGEL EXPERIMENT

James Patterson
For ages 10+

A book review by
Kimberlyn (Karli)
C.



(5 stars out of 5)

Maximum Ride is a fourteen year old girl who is 2% bird. She was given away for money to a group of evil scientists to be experimented on. Max and her flock escape "Erasers" another invention of the "School" (laboratory) and go to different places trying to find their parents. Other experiments have gone wrong, and Max wonders how long her lifespan is. They travel worldwide: France, England, Germany, Disney World, etc. A highly recommended book.

Whitewater Kayaking

By



Jonathan B.

Imagine yourself rowing down a river at a leisurely pace without a care in the world. You just sit back and let the current take you. If you're doing that then you're definitely not whitewater kayaking. There are many kinds of kayaks, slalom kayaks, sea kayaks, whitewater kayaks, and more!

Whitewater takes a lot of skill, determination, and patience to get the hang of. It's definitely not for the faint of heart. I went with my Boy Scout troop earlier this year and I have to say, it was one of the most fun things I have ever done.

After sitting in a cramped bus for a couple hours we set up our tents just a few hundred feet from a river and could hear some rapids next to us. We didn't kayak in that river though. We went to the Cumberland Falls about a half an hour from where we were camping. We started just below the falls and spent eight hours kayaking with just a half hour off for lunch. For lunch you would want something with a lot of carbs such as a sandwich or pasta.

We put back in and started back right next to a rapid, I almost got pulled in! I remember at one point on the river my boat had flooded up to my knees and I was slowly getting more and more water in my kayak. I was just about to go under (not really, there are safety features to keep you afloat) when I found a flat spot, pulled to the edge, and dumped all the water out. Kayaking wore me out, and I was soaked through by the end. I only capsized twice so I consider it a good day. I earned a Kayaking badge and a Whitewater badge. I had loads of fun and can't wait to go back this fall!

Hints For



by Clayton R.

Runescape (www.Runescape.com) is a massive online adventure game where you can become a wizard, knight or an archer. There are a few twist to the game. You may not know but you can change the text above your head by typing in different codes at the beginning of the text bar. Here's a list of fun codes.

RED: Turns the text red.

WAVE: Makes the text wavy.

GLOW: Makes the text glow different colors.

SCROLL: The text will scroll across the screen.

FLASH2: The text will flash blue.

GREEN: The text will turn green.

Trampoline Safety

By Remi A.

Bouncing on a trampoline is a fun enjoyable activity but can be very dangerous. For example, my brother's friend recently broke her ankle while playing on her trampoline with an older child. Another boy, jumping on a trampoline without a net, bounced off and hit his head. He was taken to the ER with a concussion. While they can be dangerous, if some simple rules are followed, trampolines can be a great source of fun and exercise.

Some ways to be safe are:

1. Always have a net
2. Have an adult supervise you at all times
3. Children under six should not be on a full size trampoline
4. Do not somersault, flip, nor do tricks
5. Trampoline should be on a flat area
6. Bounce low and in the center
7. Do not wear jewelry



Source:
www.trampoline.com/safety

Go to
www.My-BHLC.org.
to find a list of field trips, pay for trips, and
join our yahoo group!

October Calendar

By Vance O.

1. BHLC Co-op
2. Deadline for Movie: Where the

- Wild Things Are
Deadline for Newport Aquarium
Mad Potter at 10:00 am
Festival of the Horse
3. Rockhounds of Central KY
Festival of the Horse
 4. Rockhounds of Central KY
Festival of the Horse
 6. Fun Fest at Bi-Water Farm at
10:30 am
 7. Middle Schoolers Meet 12:00 pm
 8. BHLC Co-op
 9. LCT - John Henry 11:45 am
Middle Schoolers Meet 12:00 pm
 14. Newport Aquarium
 15. BHLC Co-op
 16. Where the Wild Things Are
Fall Ball
 17. Halloween Haunted Train Ride
 22. BHLC Co-op
 23. Middle Schoolers Meet 12:00 pm
 28. Middle Schoolers Meet 12:00 pm
 29. BHLC Co-op & Halloween party
 30. Deadline for LASC: Create
Great Art
Deadline for LCT - The Best
Christmas Pageant Ever
 31. Happy Halloween!

