

OCHEC 2012 Convention – Workshop Speakers

Sylvia Funk

ICAN Neurodevelopmentalist, is an associate member of the International Christian Association of Neurodevelopmentalists. Sylvia's company, PATHWAYS for NeuroEducational Development, has its head office in Okotoks, Alberta, with branch offices in Ontario, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia. Sylvia provides evaluations and individualized programs designed to meet the Neurodevelopmental needs of each child. Sylvia's personal experience as a parent of a learning challenged child led her to pursue a career in this field.

Robin Gilman

Robin is the mother of ten children aged 8 to 31 yrs old, and has been married to Alan for 32 years. Robin has been homeschooling for 26 years and has found it to be the most fulfilling thing she could have done with her life. Her passion is to encourage other homeschooling moms, especially those with several young children. Six of the Gilman children are now successful young adults,

Calvin Smith

Calvin's interest in creation ministry as a speaker, arose from seeing its effectiveness in strengthening the faith and evangelistic efforts of those exposed to the truth of God's Word. Through working with young people, both inside the church and with a small group at the University of Guelph, Calvin witnessed the devastation brought to our youth by the teaching of evolutionary rationalism. He also saw the life-transforming effect biblical answers have to encourage people to know God's Word can be trusted from the very first verse. Calvin has spoken on creation topics since 2001 at youth groups, Christian schools, churches, and small groups. He has also appeared on the CTS live call-in television program 'Nite Lite Live'. He presently co-hosts the new CMI TV show Creation Magazine LIVE! He lives in Guelph, Ontario, with his wife and three children, and speaks full time with Creation Ministries International, based in Waterloo.

Cori Dean

Cori Dean is a wife, a mom, a teacher, and the proprietress of MapleTree Publications. Her joy is in living, learning, and working with her four young princesses along side their knight in shining armour. After spending nearly 20 years teaching math Cori now enjoys writing and sharing with homeschoolers, and is the author/editor of several publications from MapleTree including, Working Together: Teamwork Starts at Home Base. She enjoys reading, gardening, scrapbooking, cycling, and geocaching. Cori and her husband Mark live in Bradford, Ontario, and are in full-time ministry with The Shop Vehicle Donation Program, a program of Youth for Christ.

Dean Anderson

Dean Anderson is an Itinerant Minister, Homeschooling Dad, Business Manager, Husband, and Father living in Sault Ste Marie, Ontario. He is passionate about Open Source products and inspiring people to live their lives as lights in the world for Christ.

Louise House

Louise and her husband Harold reside in scenic Goderich, Ontario, where they operate The Learning House, a homeschool supply company. They home educated their four children from preschool through high school. Louise's homeschool experience includes being a founding member of OCHEC and of her local homeschool support group, Bluewater Christian Home Educators. She counts it a privilege to minister to homeschooling families via Keeping In Touch, an e-newsletter, through curriculum counseling, speaking, and encouragement on a one-on-one basis.

Diane Geerlinks

Diane Geerlinks is a mom of five grown children and along with her husband, Harv, have home educated their children for 23 years. She is ECE-DH trained teaching children with special needs, and after homeschooling her own children, was trained as an Educational Therapist with NILD Canada (National Institute for Learning Development). She is a motivational speaker at conferences and is passionate about finding new ways to help children learn.

Jacki Knight

Passionate to see individuals reach their full potential, Jacki Knight exhorts and encourages from her heart. She shares her 23 years of home education experience, both the good and the bad as a mother, conference speaker, home education consultant, and curriculum sales distributor in an open and honest forum. Jacki and her husband Richard educated their three children through high school and are in the beginning stages with their grandchildren.

Bettie VanGils Kloet

Bettie VanGils Kloet has been homeschooling in Hamilton for ten years. She loves God, kids, and teaching, and she really enjoys teaching fitness and physical education courses to kids and adults. She is co-authoring a book on Teaching Homeschool Physical Education, to be released soon through Human Kinetics.

Karen Knor and Joanne van't Voort

Karen Knor and Joanne van't Voort are homeschool Moms who have graduated ten students from their homeschools. Eight of these students have gone on to post secondary studies, and two into apprenticeships. They are both still teaching high school and elementary school level students, and have become life long students of God's grace and goodness. God's blessings have been instrumental in keeping both Karen and Joanne humble, teaching patience, and helping them to be a blessing and encouragement to others.