

ICHE 2005 Convention Speakers

Erin Blain, Steve Demme, Ralph & Connie Garcia,
Linda Kane, & Norm Wakefield

Audio available at: www.resoundingvoice.com

Erin Blain – Erin Blain and her husband Terry began their home-schooling journey in 1987, and have since graduated two of their six children. Erin has been a KONOS area representative for eleven years. She speaks often at churches, support groups, and home-school conventions; inspiring mothers to reach the heart of their children, and training families how to teach their children more effectively.

THE CHALLENGE OF LEARNING: WHEN NOTHING WORKS – Blain

The home-school movement has tragically ignored its students with learning challenges, out of fear that its students will be labeled. However, without knowledge, research, a label, and solutions, these students are virtually untaught; for they are unable to unlock their greatest learning potential on their own. Erin shares the latest research and helps, as well as her personal journey.

TEACHING WITH THE BRAIN IN MIND: IT REALLY DOES MATTER–Blain

It has been discovered that fifty percent of our population takes in information through the right brain, yet ninety percent of the available curriculum is presented for the left brain learner. Erin will share how to unlock the learning potential, creativity, and critical thinking skills your students need in order to master subjects in you homeschool.

STEVE DEMME – 2005 convention speaker

Steve and his wife Sandra have been married for over 25 years, and are the parents of four sons—who, with God’s help, have all been home educated. A gifted speaker, Steve addresses a variety of topics to encourage parents in their God-given responsibilities of raising and training their children for His glory. Steve and Sandra have created the *Math-U-See Foundation*, a non-profit corporation to assist and encourage parents and families with cassettes, booklets, and other helpful resources. Steve served in full or part-time pastoral ministry from 1979 to 2003, after graduating from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. As a former math teacher who has taught at all levels of math in public, private, and Christian schools, Steve is the author and founder of *Math-U-See*, a complete K–12 hands-on math curriculum. <http://www.mathusee.com>

PRIDE, EXPECTATIONS, HOPE, & REDEMPTION – Demme

This workshop is Steve’s testimony of the last fifteen years as the father of a special needs child. He shares what his family has learned as a result of Johnny’s physical problems; unique development; and the rewarding and joyful role he has played in their lives. God does indeed work all things together for good, even in the dark valleys of life.

RALPH & CONNIE GARCIA – 2004 & 2005 convention speakers

Ralph & Connie have been serving as board members for Christian Home Educators Coalition (CHEC) for five years. Ralph is currently the president for the organization. They have been homeschooling their son for over nine years. The Garcia’s have ministered to families in areas such as homeschooling, husband and wife relationships, and child training. They have tutored struggling students in reading and math, as well as presented math workshops to parents, teachers, and administrators.

PRESCRIPTION FOR MATH: PART I & II - Garcia

Some parents wrestle with this subject called “math.” Naturally we have the tendency to teach our children the same way we were taught. However, if we ourselves struggled with math as students...could that be why our children struggle? Learn proven math strategies that work with virtually

every child. These strategies will unleash the same awesome gift children use for learning and retaining stories effortlessly. Class participation is required.

Linda Kane – Linda M. Kane's experience in the field of special needs began when their oldest son was diagnosed with Down's Syndrome. She quickly became a veteran of numerous unsuccessful programs and therapies; searching for the answers that would ultimately help him. Linda has worked extensively with hundreds of individuals; designing and monitoring their therapies. Desiring to have a strong biblical foundation and Christian basis when working with families, Linda founded Hope and a Future, Inc. Linda continues her research, study, and the exploration of options and methodologies to enhance the field of neurodevelopment; while traveling to meet quarterly with families in ten locations across the U.S.
<http://www.hope-future.org>

BIRTH TO SIX: THE MOST IMPORTANT HOME-SCHOOL YEARS – Kane

Home education begins at birth, yet all too often the first six years are not considered home-school years. For every hour you spend specifically working with your pre-school child, you will save five hours or more in later years. At this workshop you will learn how to guide your child in their early years to put them in the best position for learning.

BRAIN ORGANIZATION FOR LONG-TERM MEMORY – Kane

Why do some bright children seem so disorganized and have inconsistent academic recall? Why do some children have emotional outbursts, or struggle with stuttering, coordination, or letter or word reversals? How can we make it "easier" for them? For children to be efficient learners with good long-term memory, they need to have well-organized brains. The solution is never found in treating the various symptoms or coping and compensating for these inefficiencies. This session is applicable to "normal," "gifted," "struggling," and "special needs" students, and the information will teach you what you can do to help your child achieve neurological efficiency.

CREATING A POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT – Kane

Are you worn out before noon, feeling defeated, or dreading another day? Do not despair—there is hope! At this workshop we will discuss the most effective ways to create a positive learning environment—including practical tips for implementation and application. Whether you are working with a strong-willed child or a passive resistor, there are techniques that can turn the situation around. Learning can be fun, challenging, and exciting – without the struggle.

HOME EDUCATING YOUR CHILD WITH SPECIAL NEEDS – Kane

It does not matter what label/diagnosis your child was given; home educating your special needs child does not have to be frightening or frustrating. The potential of a child is determined by the opportunities given him. Learn how to give your child optimized opportunities to help them reach their greatest potential and go beyond the labels and the dismal prognosis given. The home is the perfect place for your special needs child. You, the parent, are the perfect teacher for your child. You are the experts on your child and can take the leading role in their education. Learn specific activities and significant strategies for making the difference.

MAXIMIZE YOUR HOME-SCHOOLING TIME THROUGH EFFICIENT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES – Kane

Children learn when their brains are properly stimulated. By understanding some of the information-processing factors that relate to learning, you can help your children learn more efficiently. In this session, you will learn how learning occurs in the brain and how you can apply that information to the way you teach your children. You will learn how not to drive yourself crazy.

THE NEURODEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH TO AUTISM – Kane

Unraveling the “mystery” of autism is very complex. Autism has a wide-ranging spectrum, and is a diagnosis, rather than a disease. It is a level based on symptoms, and the accepted prognosis for autism is very dismal. Our hope is to dispel some of the myths of autism, as well as offer encouragement and practical ideas for getting to the root cause of some of the symptoms.

55. PROCESSING CHALLENGES? YES, THERE IS HOPE! – *Th. only*

Does your child have difficulty learning phonics, following directions, understanding what has been said, or recognizing numbers, letters, and sight words? What about math computation or visual attention? Is your child highly distractible or socially immature? If so, they may have an auditory or visual processing problem. This session will help you determine if your child has a processing problem and will teach you what you can do to help.

NORM WAKEFIELD –

Norm Wakefield is the founder of The Spirit of Elijah Ministries International. Norm and Alma have four children and nine grandchildren, and have homeschooled for 20 years. The goal of Norm’s ministry is to express God’s heart as a Father revealed in the Gospel. Norm reveals how to make the Gospel relevant to the next generation in order to prepare them for the Lord. He believes home education is primarily about discipling the next generation for life as well as for eternity. You’ll find Norm’s messages will speak to your hearts, as well as give practical insights in how to build lasting relationships and prepare your children to glorify God. <http://www.spiritofelijah.com>

PARENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN: LIFE WITH AMANDA – Wakefield

Norm shares lessons they have learned while educating Amanda, their 20-year-old daughter who has special needs. They will share insights regarding how to face the challenges of working with a special needs child, as well as resources that may be of encouragement and assistance.