

HEART MATTERS

NON SCHOLÆ SED VITÆ

Libraries of Hope Newsletter



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Announcements.....1

Marlene’s Musings.....4

Worth Watching.....5

ANNOUNCEMENTS

--**Welcome to a brand new school year** and another tour around the world! We always start with Exploration and Discovery, which is fitting because that is the nature of WEH learning. We start out with Marco Polo who inspired Columbus to try to find a westward route to China and India. So we study those countries. Along the way, explorers discovered other islands and lands in the Pacific Ocean and South Seas, so we’ll take a look there, as well. The Vikings were also early explorers here, so that leads us back to a study of Scandinavian countries.

They often looked to the Stars to guide them, and so we begin our tour through nature with a study of the Stars and all things pertaining to the sky.

Our Mother’s University topic is A Mother’s Influence where you’ll get to know our friend, Pestalozzi, better. I would say he was an explorer at heart—in search of a better way to educate children.

Many of you may have gotten a head start on the school year since many of your friends started school in August. That works out perfectly because Month 1 has SO many places to visit, it doesn’t hurt one bit to spread it out over two months.

--**I’m so excited to announce** the creation of a new learning community for High Schoolers, The Well-Educated Heart Academy. We are so blessed to have Dr. Pablo Riboldi heading up the creation of this platform. He will be teaching three classes this year—Euclidean Geometry, Physics, and Biology. They are appropriate for Grade 9-12 and he is encouraging parents to join as well!

To learn more of the vision of this community, please listen to [Podcast #204](#). And then visit wehacademy.org for more information and to register for classes. Dr. Riboldi said you can join up to the middle of the month,

WE ARE JUST GETTING STARTED!

(Announcements cont.) although classes start September 6. He invites you to sit in on a couple of classes, if needed, before you commit.

We are just getting started!

--Our new **Mothers of Influence** community platform opens today, September 1st. You can learn all about it by listening to “[Where Do I Go From Here](#)” in Section 6 of Catch the Vision at [librariesofhope.com](#). The prerequisite to join is completing the 17-hour Catch the Vision introductory course. Be sure you access the one in our new website at [librariesofhope.com](#) as the old website is missing key presentations. Come whenever you are ready!

This gives us a chance to connect off of Facebook. We have lots of exciting plans for workshops and guest speakers and ways to just get together and talk about whatever you need some help and support for. If you watched the [Belle Ame Dream](#) video, this platform is where more information will be shared. Exciting things are happening!

--One of the benefits of joining our new MOI community --(which officially opens September 1)-- is that on the first Wednesday of each month, you are invited to join us for a ‘Simple Joy’ virtual lunch together while we listen to a special guest speaker. Our speakers will talk about something to do with that month’s Mother’s University topic.

I’m really excited to tell you about our first guest who will join us on September 7.

I picked up a book called [Forgotten Women of God](#) by Diana Webb at a used book store a couple of years ago and was fascinated and inspired by the stories of ‘forgotten’ women of the Old Testament. Talk about ‘A Woman’s Influence!’

The author has carefully researched their stories from ancient records and brought them to life so they can teach us.

I contacted my friend, Donna Nielsen, who was quoted in this book, and asked if she had contact with the author because I wanted to invite her to speak to our group. A short time later, she texted back with Diana’s contact info and said that Diana would love to speak to us!

Her first chapter she addressed woman as ‘helpmeet.’ When you look at the origin of the word, it reveals woman’s powerful role as rescuer and one who saves.

We look to great men like Moses, but do we remember had there not been two courageous midwives--who are

Art Credit: Moses in the Bulrushes by Elizabeth Jane Gardner



(Announcements cont.) named in this book--who rescued him from execution, there would have been no Moses? These women will inspire you. Women are most certainly not the 'weaker' sex.

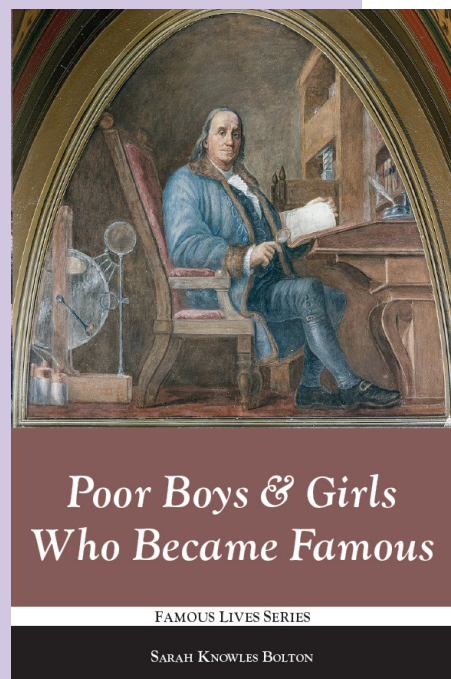
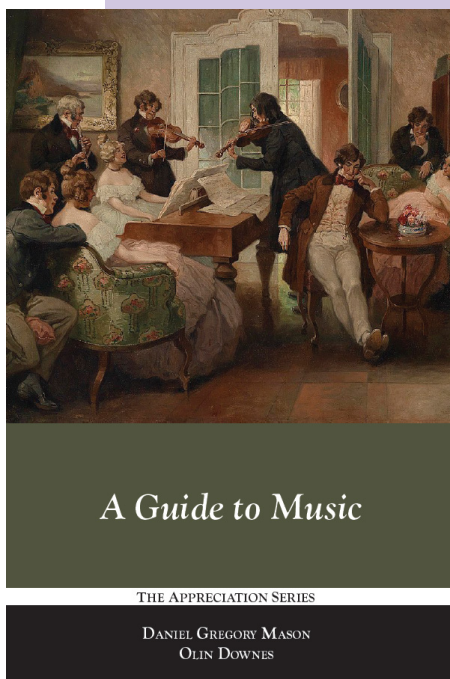
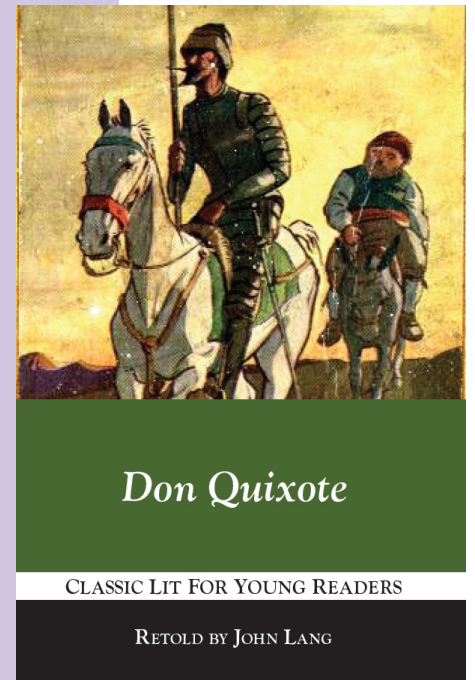
This book is still in print on Amazon, by the way. Pick up a copy, grab a sandwich and join us in the MOI Community Wednesday, September 7 at noon MT.

--**New Books for October:** Appreciation Series: Gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for music with this guide to music for beginners and then get acquainted with more composers you may not be familiar with, along with fun details of stories behind their works.

Classic Lit for Young Readers will include Don Quixote retold by John Lang and The Pilgrim's Progress retold by Mary MacGregor. Be sure and look in our audio section for some background stories of these classic works.

Famous Lives Series by Sarah Bolton combines her popular Lives of Poor Boys Who Grew Up to Be Famous with Lives of Girls Who Grew Up To Be Famous.

My Fine Art Story Book looks at Spanish, Dutch and Belgian artists and their works, with stories of their lives.



(Announcements cont.) --My favorite part of the day is recording stories from the Forgotten Classics. I love these stories so much. Do click on the audio link in librariesofhope.com to access them. I'm continually building up the listening library and this year I will focus on the Forgotten Classics.

--Our free app has been updated to link to the new sites and features. Do download it if you haven't yet! It will make it so much easier to get where you want to go.

--Finally—we are going to shrink our newsletter a bit. With our new Mothers of Influence community platform, those of you who have avoided Facebook can now join in the conversation off of Facebook. Mostly we'll keep you up to date on announcements and throw in a few thoughts to chew on.



"If representative government is ever to bring forward wisdom and patriotism, it will be because wisdom and patriotism exist and demand representation.... There is no virtue in the voice of majorities. The danger of ignorance or indifference is only intensified when rolled up in majorities. Truth is strong, and error is weak, and the majorities of error melt away under the influence of a few men whose right acting is based on right thinking. Right thinking has been your privilege; right acting is now your duty; and at no time in the history of the world has duty been more imperative than now."

--C. E. Sargent, *Our Home* (in "A Mother's Influence" p. 153)

Art Credit: Washington Inauguration at Philadelphia, Ferris

MARLENE'S MUSINGS

--I've been recording stories from Month 1 of Forgotten Classics (for when you want to send your kids to "grandma's") and I just finished recording *Our Little Swedish Cousins*.

I am pure Swedish. All my grandparents are from Sweden. My grandfather served as Swedish mission president--twice. My parents met as missionaries in Sweden. My husband served a mission in Sweden.

So it was so fun to read about the customs and culture there and to make so many fun connections!

I think my love of birch trees and meadows are deep in my DNA.

As they described the Christmas feasts, images of Carl Larsson's paintings came to my mind. Then as I read the Midsummer folk dances and their dress, another painting came to mind by Anders Zorn. And

I could hear the Swedish folk music I've heard at family reunions and in YouTube videos I've posted.

They had an imaginary visit to Swedenborg's home--and I knew all about him!

The last chapter was about celebrating the Name-day, which I learned in *The Golden Name Day* book I recorded earlier for my grandkids; a book I loved so much,

(Marlene's Musings cont.) we reprinted it and made it part of the Sunshine series.

But the funnest connection of all was in the last chapter when they told a story of a blooming twig. My parents used to put out a family newsletter called The Blooming Twig. I knew it had something to do with my maiden name--Blomquist--but I never knew more.

Now I do know more and I love it! How fitting that it was the story of a grumpy old priest who came to life by the blooming of an old twig and the songs of birds. "Behold how my old staff has grown green and flowers like a rose-bush in June. This is a symbol, my good fellow, that hope blooms in the hearts of us all."

That is my name! It stands for hope blooming in the hearts of us all!

I can hardly wait to share Month 1 with my grandchildren. I got a head start last week with my little Kenzie, reading her the Ricka, Dicka and Flicka books. Such great stories.

The joy is in the connections! Where will you land in Month 1??



**"THE BEGINNING OF WORRY
IS THE END OF FAITH; AND
THE BEGINNING OF FAITH IS
THE END OF WORRY."**

-- George Muller

Art credit: Frantizek Dvoark

WORTH WATCHING

--Extinct tree from the time of Jesus rises from the dead: https://youtu.be/o0y5Z8_tefY

--Beatrix Farrand's American Landscapes: <https://youtu.be/E4buar-nYiQ>