



**DELTA KAPPA GAMMA
 SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
 ALPHA DELTA STATE
 DELTA EPSILON CHAPTER**

The Chatterbox

Making Connections

By: Kimberly Lewis

“On the plane”

Last week I was flying out to California for the International Science and Engineering Fair and beside me was a gentleman, former aeronautical engineer, that now works for coupons.com. Some of you may have used this service before. He told me his love for designing airplanes, but during the .com boom he moved to Silicon Valley to take part. He said, “numbers are numbers and I use my engineering basics all the time.” We exchanged emails and he sent me the names of many local mom and pop type restaurants to go to in the San Jose area. (As I am typing this I am marinating meat to make a Vietnamese sandwich that I tried... MMmmm). Will I call on Paul again? Maybe.

On the way home I sat beside a marine Blackhawk pilot, a very nice young man that was traveling to Texas to be shipped out to Afghanistan. This is his third time over to the war, first time as a pilot. He has his EMT license and by chance he will be flying the medics and wounded soldiers. He and I also talked about the San Francisco area where he grew up and we too exchanged emails. Not long after I was off the plane I started thinking about my students training to take their national EMT exam. What a unique pen-pal relationship this could be for my students to ask field questions of the medics in war. As generous as the students in the SkillsUSA program at Buckeye Hills are, I am sure they will send gifts and treats to the soldiers along with their pen pal questions. I am wishing him the very best and I was proud to sit beside such a brave individual.



Blooming Roses

I was a little hesitant about taking an entire day to attend a session on leadership. After all, I was very busy with my job, attending two multi-day conferences for work and being a grandmother to a very lively three year old and his active one year old sister. But I knew it was my duty as a good Delta Kappa Gamma member to go forth and learn all that I could. Besides, attending Leadership Training is now a Key Point for Gold Key and I didn't want to let you down.

When I finally got to the church without much help from the GPS that I had borrowed from my parents, the tables were full of Alpha Delta State members who had already settled in for the day. I quickly found a seat with a delightful group of ladies. As the state officers moved to the front of the room, I noticed they were ready for work. They had their work aprons tied on and had their “tools” that were needed to accomplish their tasks for the day.

The state officers did a wonderful job throughout the day and kept things moving very well. Not only did I gain knowledge about our organization, but I gained a deeper understanding. When the day was over, I left to make my way back home with my tools to help me do a better job as chapter president. The day was well worth the time and I was very glad that I had attended. I am excited to be able to share some of this information with all of you at future meetings.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Special points of interest:

- **September 20th- Meeting @ Oak Hill Elementary**
- **October 16th- State Executive Meeting**
- **October 18th- Chapter Dues need to be turned in**

ZUMBA!

Zumba® is the latest “exercise” craze to sweep the world. The name comes from Columbian slang for a buzzing bee. It began in the late 90’s when Beto Perez, the founder of Zumba® went to teach an aerobics class in Cali, Columbia and discovered he’d forgotten his music, but had music in his bag that he loved to listen to. He played that and everyone exercised to it. Now people around the world dance to the mainly international music in moves based on dances such as Salsa, Merengue, Cha Cha, Reggeton, Samba, etc. It looks like aerobics with a dance twist. All I know, is that in the two months that I’ve been “dancing”, I’ve discovered that no matter how tired I am, I go because I know that I will go to the party (we don’t call them workouts!) with a smile on my face, dance for an hour (with barely enough time between songs to get a drink of water) with a smile on my face, leave with a smile on my face, and wake up the next day with a smile on my face. My instructor warned us that Zumba® is addictive and she is right! But addictive in the best possible way. Surprisingly there is a mix of all sizes, shapes, and fitness levels those attending. No one calls out moves and counts, you just do it at your level and speed. Sometimes I feel like I have two left feet, so I just concentrate on either the foot or hand movements, moving to the beat. Our instructor, in my case Julie Haines (a teacher herself), has choreographed moves that she dances and we follow her lead. Worried about being too fat or too slow? No problem! Everyone is too busy watching the instructor to notice you. When you decide to attend be sure not to dress to warm. Capris or shorts are best, along with a short sleeve tank. You can wear cross-training shoes, but I’ve read that dance sneakers are also great as are shoes with a circle under the ball of the foot so that you can pivot on one foot easier. We do pivot and we do shimmy and we do move....fast! And almost everyone ends up ordering a coin skirt to wear also because it’s so much fun to hear the coins jangle! Classes are only \$4.00 and are currently being held in several locations throughout the week with new classes opening weekly. Come join our party! Don’t forget a big water bottle and maybe a towel. I remember reading recently that one woman had described Zumba® as like going on a cruise and dancing Latin dances for an hour. I have to agree. Today at the copier I told a coworker that I may have found the way not to be burned out by April! I’m eager to see how that turns out. You can check it out online at www.zumba.com, or go to www.youtube.com and search for Zumba videos. You can see actual classes (Oops! I mean “parties”) there.



Jackson City Schools “Success” Programs

By: Debby Crabtree

21st Century Community Learning Centers

During the 2009-2010 school year the Jackson City Schools were able to open two new after-school programs for students in grades kindergarten through five. The programs were held at both Northview and Westview elementary schools for fifteen hours of tutoring and enrichment activities each week. Students were able to receive homework help daily and sign up for a variety of enrichment activities on a monthly basis. These group activities included arts and crafts, games, fitness, music and drama, journalism, science, cooking, and computer activities.

At the end of each school day students who were participating in the program were given a snack, provided with homework help and tutoring, and then supervised in the activity period selected for that month. Over 200 students participated in each program held on regular school days from October 2009 until April 2010. Special activities also included a trip to the Markay Cultural Arts Center in January to learn about fiber arts and a recycling campaign carried out by students in March in the city of Jackson.

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers are funded by competitive grants awarded through the Ohio Department of Education and are renewable for a five year grant period. The two projects in Jackson are the result of a partnership between the Jackson City School District, The Gallia-Vinton Educational Service Center, and a large number of community organizations and businesses willing to offer their support for the programs. Jackson staff, students, families, and community members have expressed an overwhelming appreciation for the programs and look forward to their continued “Success” for our students in the Jackson City School District.

Quad Meeting

By: Debby Canter

The Delta Epsilon Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society hosted a quad meeting on March 5, 2010. There were three of the four chapters present for a total of 37. The meeting was held at the Jackson Presbyterian Church with president Debby Canter presiding. She welcomed everyone present. Vice President Lynn Brisker gave the invocation. She read a humorous article about the many jobs a teacher endures everyday.

A delicious meal was served by the women of the Jackson Presbyterian Church. After the meal the Bell Choir of the church entertained the group with several selections, under the direction of Paul Hogue.

Belinda Dixon then introduced the speaker, Senator John Carey. He gave an interesting talk about the things going on in the State Legislature. Due to the economic conditions of the state, the budget was cut 7% across the board. The point that interested the teachers most was that there had not been anything decided about future retirement ages and health care. The issue of funding schools in Ohio has not been resolved either. He answered a few questions from the ladies. President Debby Canter thanked him for coming and speaking with the ladies.

The ladies sang the Delta Kappa Gamma song before breaking into respective chapters to conduct business.

[International Website:](#)

www.deltakappagamma.net

[Alpha Delta State:](#)

www.deltakappagamma.org/OH/



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Mission Statement: The Delta
Kappa Gamma Society
International promotes
professional and personal growth
of women educators and
excellence in education.



Making Connections

By: Kimberly Lewis

“So how do you hear about these things?”

Recently at our local Delta Epsilon chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma meeting someone asked me if I was going on any trips this summer. Well it is not the trip I had planned, but this past winter I applied for Teacher At Sea. It is a program sponsored by NOAA that allows teachers to work side by side by NOAA research scientists on missions dealing with fish populations, hydrology, sea floor mapping, etc. How did I get involved? Winter of 2009 the Ohio Department of Education sent out some invitations for teachers to attend a science rangefinder committee. This committee meets to discuss the fairness of the rubrics of the 10th science Ohio Graduation Test. Although for some it may not seem like an exciting two and half days reviewing sample student responses, but it is the connections you make when you go to the meetings. The teacher beside me, Chris Monsour and I started talking about travel. He too attended Earth Expeditions summer coursework through Project Dragonfly and knew some of the same people I did. Then he went on to say he was tired of paying for trips, so he looked for trips that were already funded, this brought him to Teacher at Sea. I tucked that piece of information back and this past year I applied. To my surprise I was one of 35 teachers nation wide selected. So you see, no matter where you are someone has something that to say that may become a resource for later. And by the way, I really did enjoy my work on the science rangefinder committee! For more information about NOAA’s Teacher at Sea visit <http://teacheratsea.noaa.gov/>