

THE DCHE DISPATCH

A newsletter of the DeKalb Christian Home Educators
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DCHE Members attend *Women in Technology* Event at MODA

By Deanna Cauthen



Dekalb Christian Home Educator members, Angela Paul and Deanna Cauthen and Adrianna Cauthen, attended a *Women in Technology* (WIT) networking event at the *Museum of Design Atlanta* (MODA) on March 2.

Although she was not one of the presenters, the WIT director immediately recognized Mrs. Paul as a leader and asked her to share some of her experience as a former chemical engineer and a current math/science teacher with the high school girls who were there. Of course, she was phenomenal!

Women in Technology (WIT) passionately supports women at every stage of their STEM careers—from the classroom to the boardroom. With over 2,500 professionals attending our programs and events, over 500 students, and over 250 volunteers, WIT has become the largest, most active organization of its kind in the region.

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“Love Lavishly”

By Deanna Cauthen

As I look out the front window of my house at the two little, brick homes across the street, my hurting heart is full. In the past two weeks, Louise and Barbara, two neighbors that I've known for almost 20 years, have died. I stare at their houses knowing that I will never see them walk out their doors or walk through mine. I feel a deep sense of pain and a keen sense of loss.

In the quiet, stillness of the early hours of the morning, alone with my with my own thoughts, I'm forced to ask myself the question, "Did I love these women well? Had I loved my neighbors lavishly?"

When I moved to Pinehill Drive, almost 20 years ago, I was a 30-year old, single mom with three kids. During those first years, I didn't talk with either one of them very much except to wave and say "hello" and "goodbye", but as time went on we began to visit. Most of our talks were impromptu--you know, at the mailbox when we came out to retrieve our mail, in the yard when one of us stopped to take a break from mowing, or sometimes I would walk over to borrow an egg or a cup of milk and ended up staying awhile.

I learned a lot about those ladies during those times. I learned that Louise's husband died, suddenly, of a massive heart attack and left her with three young children. I learned that when her son, David, got sick with AIDS and her daughter, Donna, became ill from congestive heart failure, she took care of both of them until they died.

In my talks with Barbara, I discovered that she was an only child, had two sons that she hardly ever saw, that both of her marriages ended in divorce, that she loved coffee and cigarettes and had kicked a bad drinking habit.

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Several years ago, Louise began to lose her memory to Alzheimer's Disease. It was during this time that my husband and I became the most involved with her. Her only surviving daughter, Debbie, lived a good distance away and because of that we agreed that we would keep an eye on her mama.

Sometimes I would be coming home from somewhere or leaving to go to an appointment and I'd see Louise walking down the street. It was during these times that I had to make a decision. "Was I going to stop and delay my plans and take her to where she needed to go or get her safely home?" I'll admit, there were times when I was very tempted to just look the other way, but then I thought, "What if this was my mother?"

Then there was Barbara. She was a self-proclaimed redneck (her words, not mine) and she lived up to all that comes with the name. She said some of the most colorful (and offensive) things and we had lots of arguments, but I knew deep down that she was lonely and needed company and as the years passed, Barbara became part of our family.

I'm not sure when it happened, but somewhere along the way, I grew to love these women. Yes, it required effort and energy on my part and sometimes it costed me my time, money, personal space, or physical and emotional comfort, but I came to love them.

Am I saying that I do this love thing perfectly? Absolutely not! What I am saying is that I've finally realized that there are no do-overs. Once our loved ones are gone, they are gone forever and all of the crying and wishing in the world won't bring them back.

So the question is, how well are you loving the people around you? This will, of course, mean different things for different people, but whatever it takes, I challenge you to love lavishly today. I promise, you will never regret it.

Math Plus Educational Services

Angela Paul, Owner/Operator



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Tucker, GA 30084
Phone: 678-799-4125

Email: jimangpaul@juno.com

Website: <https://mathpluseducation.com>

Mission Statement

The mission of the *DeKalb Christian Home Educators* is to provide Christ-centered support to the entire home schooling family. To this end we endeavor to: Gather for mutual support and encouragement, share our resources, skills, experience, questions, and problems, discover opportunities for teacher training and extracurricular activities, present a unified voice in the legal and political arenas.

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Interested in joining DeKalb Christian Home Educators? Visit our website at

<https://dcheeducators.wordpress.com/> or email meeting coordinator Michelle Shaw at michelleas@aol.com



Events Around Town

FIRST Robotics District Qualifier Competition at Kennesaw State University April 9-10, 2016 10:00am

Come out and watch your fellow DCHE students compete at the district level competition at Kennesaw State University. For more information, go to <http://www.gafirst.org/index.php/events/calendar/event/91-kennesaw-frc-district-qualifier>

Atlanta National College Fair Georgia International Convention Center | March 13, 2016

Attending a college fair is the best way to gather information, first hand, about colleges and universities. Free and open to the public, the fair will give students an opportunity to meet face to face with college representatives from all over the world.

Students will learn more at the fair about:

- Admission requirements
- Financial aid
- Course offerings
- Campus environment
- As well as other information pertinent to the college selection process

Registration is FREE!! Students can register online by going to <http://www.gotomyncf.com/Registration/EventSelectForState?stateName=All>.

DCHE 28th Annual Science Fair at Crossroads Presbyterian Church April 22, 2016 at 12:00 pm

The fair is opened to kindergartners through high school seniors. Please register early to give us an idea of the number of participants.

The link below is for science fair topics and suggestions. It also includes a detailed science fair project guide.

- <http://www.sciencebuddies.org>

For more info, contact Coretta Ponder at mommycanwe@gmail.com



DCHE Teens Activity Hiking and Frisbee @ Stone Mountain Saturday, March 26th 5:00-8:00pm

Who: Ages 13 and up

Where: Stone Mountain Park

Cost: Bring a snack to share!

For more information, contact Andrew Cauthen at acauthen3@gmail.com or email Deanna Cauthen at dzstories@yahoo.com.

Student Spotlights

Below is a picture of the Fernbank LINKS (4468) FIRST Robotics team, which includes several students in DCHE.

They are a terrific group of youngsters and Dr. Debi Williams Huffman is a great mentor and coach. Next week they will be traveling to Columbus, GA for their first competition of the season with their new robot, #Hastag. We pray that they will have a great season. Stay tuned for updates and pics!



The following DCHE students are members of the Fernbank LINKS Team:
First row- Cnydney Breedlove, Brandon Bosley, Adrianna Cauthen, Jordynnn Breedlove, Jabin Rodriguez. Second row- Mekayla Martin



Benefits of Volunteerism in College

Many high school students have participated in some type of volunteer experience. Some needed to complete a set number of volunteer hours to graduate. Others sought out community service opportunities to make their college applications stand out. And some simply felt a desire to give back, adding volunteer service to their high school schedules. But once high school students become college freshman, the rates of volunteerism often decreases. A slew of academic and social activities may take the place of those volunteer hours. But it is important for college freshman to remember that there are many benefits to volunteering.

Volunteer experience may increase your financial aid package. There are a great deal of scholarships and grants out there that list community service as a prerequisite, so if you dedicate some time each week to volunteer work, you could be giving your financial aid profile a boost as well. Once you start volunteering, you'll see how easy it is to continue doing so, whether you're fulfilling the requirements of a scholarship or looking to add to your resume.

Volunteer experience helps make your resume stand out when applying for jobs after college. If you're able to fit the time in, even if it's alongside a part-time, paying campus job, it could be worth your while to pursue a volunteer position. Employers like seeing that you volunteer your time, and are able to manage your time well enough to take on an unpaid position. Volunteerism also suggests that you're a team player, a quality many employers will look for in potential hires. Many companies also lead a number of annual volunteer projects for their staffs, so if you're active in community service and applying to work for such an organization, play up that experience. You'll look interested in the company's mission and get a leg up on other applicants.

Volunteer positions are a great way to meet people, especially if you volunteer in an area that could be of use to you post-graduation. Interested in education? Try volunteer tutoring. The program coordinators may be willing to vouch for you when you're ready to apply for paying jobs after graduation, or even point you to job opportunities you may not have heard about otherwise. Interesting in nursing or health care? Perhaps there is a free clinic near campus that offers volunteer positions. Those contacts you make in these kinds of positions will be invaluable, and could be a good source for you long after you find a job. Aside from a professional network, volunteerism can also help you build your social network. You'll not only be able to find like-minded people who share your interests, but people from different walks of life as you, as well.

Volunteering can also help you build on your existing skill sets. If you're relatively shy and want to become more outgoing, find a position that will build up your communication skills. If you're not sure about a particular field of study or have interests in several potential majors, try volunteer positions related to those areas. Even if you do something completely different with your life, you'll now be able to boast experience in a variety of different fields.

This article was written by the Infinite Scholars Program and can be found at <http://custapp.marketvolt.com/cv.aspx?cm=741468758&x=45057685>.

-Odds and Ends-



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WIT
WOMEN IN
TECHNOLOGY

BEHIND-THE-SCENES

Hosted by



Wednesday, March 30, 2016

4:30 PM - 7:00 PM

State Farm

North Terraces

400 Perimeter Center Terrace

Atlanta, GA 30346

Join us for a hands-on presentation of different STEM-related careers
at State Farm!

Be inspired as you meet Executive-Level Women!

Connect with other young women who have chosen a career in STEM!

See first-hand how STEM makes a company a success!

This event is free and open to all middle and high school girls.

For more information contact:

Christina Beyer

cbeyer@mywit.org

470-823-3228

Or visit, <http://mywit.site-ym.com/event/2016statefarmBTS>



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