

DEKALB COUNTY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

March 13, 2019 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 by recording secretary, Linda Chapman.

We had 18 members and guests present. Joyce McConkey, treasurer, told us that we have \$1,023.30 in the treasury. She reminded members that dues will be collected in June to pay their yearly local dues. We voted to raise our dues to \$15 in order to allow us to start a scholarship for area students.

Dick Stipher told our group that the Dekalb History Museum is moving and will reopen in May. They are looking for volunteers

Our guest speaker was John Holliday from the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office. He spoke to us about the frauds and scams that we are still seeing: the grandparent call, skimmers on credit machines at gas stations and other establishments, IRS calls, and soliciting calls from spoofing numbers. He had noticed a fake number he gave when he signed up for a local business's reward program called him a few days later. Robo calls are affecting businesses in that they are scammed by these callers supposedly representing their business. Businesses also have had to purchase all possible domain names so that someone doesn't try to use their name. He gave an excellent handout.

All in all the best answer to protect yourself is to only answer from numbers you know, hang up immediately if you answered a call you don't want to take, be careful on line when making purchases, only give information to a business that you have called and know is legitimate. Beware of door-to-door solicitors, they should have a permit to sell from door-to-door. Get your annual free credit report at <https://www.annualreport.com>, put a daily limit on your credit card, place a credit freeze on your credit (fraud victims get a free credit freeze), use only credit cards for purchases, do not wire or purchase gift cards when ordered to do so from a caller, and beware of telemarketing for donations. Purchases from out of state or for unusual amounts or purchases will trigger a notification from your credit card or bank.

A member also mentioned "Should I Answer" app which identifies with a red light those calls that should not be answered. Dick mentioned purchasing a Scripp card which you load with money and use as a debit card for all purchases. Notify your bank and credit card company when you are traveling. They will ask when and where you will be and they then have a better idea if the charges to the cards are yours.

Linda asked for suggestions for service projects our group could volunteer for and become involved with. The suggestions are DeKalb County History Museum (various activities), delivering meals for VAC (Meals on Wheels), Bookcases for Kids (John Rey is the contact), Big

Brothers and Big Sisters (bowling for kids), Sycamore Food Pantry (donation portal is <http://spartanfoodpantry.org>, volunteer registration link is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go>, and the Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/spar>, St. Mary's and St. Paul's, DeKalb First United Methodist church, and Sycamore Methodist church all take food donations as well. In addition there is Beth Campen Be Loved Community (helping with childcare).

The meeting adjourned about 11:35.

Respectfully submitted

Linda S. Chapman
Recording Secretary