



of good activities to share with our friends and family. Sarah Mill, Dawes' Education Director, had a very informative presentation. If you didn't get a brochure on an interesting topic, they're also on display as you enter the Visitor's Center.

Our joint meeting with Gamma Sigma chapter went very well. We had a great turnout, and I personally enjoyed meeting ladies from the other chapter. Two different members recommended that we do this annually. In the days when our present group was 2 chapters, we shared our Christmas meetings and our Founders' Day celebrations. I always enjoyed those events. Maybe a new tradition can be started for Gamma Sigma and Beta Delta. Something to consider!

Our last meeting of the school year is coming soon. The sign-up sheets for next year were at the April meeting and will be at the May meeting. Everyone is asked to select two tasks for next year. I believe that more involvement makes an organization more valuable.

Have a great spring!  
Sandy

## Dawes Meeting with Gamma Sigma

(more photos on our website: [BetaDeltaOh.weebly.com](http://BetaDeltaOh.weebly.com))





### Beta Delta Chapter Meeting

April 19, 2016

Gamma Sigma and Beta Delta chapters met together in the firelight room at the Dawes Arboretum Visitor Center on a lovely spring evening. Beautiful spring flower tablescapes provided by Gamma Sigma decorated each table. Catered box dinners were arranged by Beta Delta. Following the meal, we enjoyed an informative program by Sarah Mill about the educational programs and events available at the arboretum.

From the initial purchase of 140 acres of farmland by Beman and Bertie Dawes in 1919, Dawes has grown to include 1, 912 acres of plant collections, gardens, and natural areas. The arboretum was officially founded in 1929 with the goal of inspiring people to plant trees and love nature. They recently received their designation as a National Historic District.

In addition to visiting the arboretum and participating in its myriad programs for children, families, and adults, Sarah encouraged Delta Kappa Gamma members to consider volunteering, donating, purchasing a membership, and spreading the word to others about this local gem.

Beta Delta's next meeting will be May 21<sup>st</sup> at the Moundbuilders' Country Club for our Founder's Day brunch, officer installation, and "Buttons, Buttons, Buttons" by Carole Koontz.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Mackey, Recording Secretary



STATE TEACHERS  
RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
OF OHIO

**Y.E.S.  
Club**

Our members are very generous! At the April meeting over 50 items and \$29 were donated to the Y.E.S. Club.

Whether you are an active teacher or retired, you must keep an ear to the ground. You must know what STRS is doing. Right at this very minute, they are beginning a discussion on the health benefits being offered next year. Over the next few months, decisions will be made that affect you. To be informed, the STRS e-UPDATE should be coming to your email inbox. I will post them on our website, but you should personally keep yourself informed. Go to the STRS website <https://www.strsoh.org> and click "Register for Email Updates" in the far right column. If you haven't already registered, you will be asked to do so. They have a lot of other valuable information for you. Check it out.

## Stephen Hawking Opens Up About Teacher Who Changed His Universe

as written in the [HuffPost](#) (with permission)



Acclaimed physicist Stephen Hawking found teacher Dikran Tahta's lessons "lively and exciting." [Stephen Hawking](#) may never have become a renowned physicist if his school teacher Dikran Tahta hadn't inspired him to become a math professor.

In a new video that the [Varkey Foundation Global Teacher Prize](#) released on Tuesday, Hawking remembers how his life changed when he met Tahta as a student at [St. Albans School in Hertfordshire, England](#).

"Many teachers were boring," Hawking says in the video. "Not Mr. Tahta. His lessons were lively and exciting. Everything could be debated." He mentions that he and Tahta built his first computer together, made with electromechanical switches.

"Thanks to Mr. Tahta, I became a professor of mathematics at Cambridge, in a position once held by [Isaac Newton](#)," Hawking says. "When each of us thinks about what we can do in life, chances are, we can do it because of a teacher."

Hawking admits to being a [lazy student with bad handwriting](#), but he praises Tahta for igniting a sense of wonder and curiosity in him — and inspiring him to pursue a career in math and science. [Tahta died at age 78](#) on December 2, 2006.

**When each of us thinks about what we can do in life, chances are, we can do it because of a teacher.**" Stephen Hawking

The heartwarming video is part of the Varkey Foundation's effort to recognize exceptional teachers with its annual [Global Teacher Prize](#), which is awarded to instructors around the world. The [inaugural prize](#) was presented last year.

This year's \$1 million award will be presented to a winning teacher during a ceremony at the [Global Education and Skills Forum](#) in Dubai on Sunday. The [top 10 finalists](#) for the prize were announced last month.

"I count my teachers as among the most influential people in my life," said United Nations secretary-general Ban Ki-moon in a statement. "Teachers are entrusted with nurturing the potential of the young and helping them blossom as productive and responsible members of society. It is hard to underestimate their value. ... I applaud the launch of the Global Teacher

### What Are RFID-Blocking Wallets & Sleeves?

If you knew that someone could read your credit cards, passport, and even driver's license without actually having to swipe them or look at them, would you take steps to guard against it? I know I would and I do!

Unfortunately, RFID (Radio Frequency IDentification) technology used to track sensitive data in many of today's portable identifiers (e.g. cards) can be easily scanned without you ever knowing.

It's a scary thought to entertain and if it bothers you, keep reading to find out what you can do about it.

### Why Use An RFID-Blocking Wallet or Sleeve?

As it stands right now, most credit cards and debit cards issued within the past decade have RFID technology embedded in them. All US passports issued in 2006 and later have RFID chips that track your data and photo. RFID chips are a convenient way to store and read data – instead of having to swipe your card through a reader, you can simply wave your card in front of an RFID scanner without even taking it out of

your wallet. It's convenience at its best.

Unfortunately, the danger is that someone could build a counterfeit reader – which wouldn't be too difficult for anyone who has experience in that field – and pick up your RFID information against your will. It's similar to one of the [risks in an NFC device](#), which requires a close-up “bump” to trigger a transaction. Counterfeit card readers existed before RFID, but they require you to physically swipe your card through a slot; counterfeit **RFID readers can pull or delete data without so much as you walking by.**



Some tips on how to stay safe against hacked RFID chips mentions RFID-blocking sleeves, pouches, and wallets. A proper RFID blocker will utilize something called a

“Faraday cage” and the specification you want to look for is “electromagnetically opaque”. These RFID blockers will prevent illegitimate reading of your RFID-embedded objects.

Not all RFID-blocking wallets are made equal; some are more effective than others. In addition, even the most effective RFID-blocking wallets can fail, whether due to wear and tear or user error. These products will help keep you safe, but they are no replacement for safe habits and exercising caution.

Wallets can be expensive, but you can pick up relatively inexpensive sleeves at Amazon. Most are in the \$10.00 range and includes sets of 8 - 10 sleeves (see the photo in center - it is highly rated). I use both an RFID wallet and a sleeve. In speaking to people, I'm quite surprised that most are unaware of this security issue.

**Check out the options.  
Protect yourself!  
Better safe, than sorry!**



### Meeting Dates

#### May 21, 2016

Saturday 11 AM

Brunch \$16.00 (all inclusive)

Founder's Day &

Installation of new officers

Moundbuilder's

Country Club

Program: Founders'

Day Program by the

Leadership

Committee

Additional Speaker:

Carole Koontz

Topic: Buttons,

Buttons, Buttons!

Special Collection -

Baskets of Life

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DKG  
% Eileen McNally  
2535 Martinsburg Rd.  
Newark, OH 43055

