

Welcome to our Quarterly Newsletter!

Welcome, David Nuscher! Our new CEO started on June 1st and is quickly becoming acclimated to life at Alpha. Dave comes to us from IYS in Greene County. He has many years of experience working with and leading non-profit organizations and individuals with developmental disabilities. Dave, his wife Deborah and son Kyle currently live in Waynesville, but will be looking for Delaware digs soon. They also have a grown daughter, Kristin. Please take the opportunity to come by and meet our new CEO - he's a great guy and will be a fantastic asset to Alpha and the individuals we serve.



The Spring Dance was held on Friday, April 23rd at the Eagles Lodge. We had approximately 180 people kicking up their heels to Roger Bishop's Hyper-Sounds.

The Employee Recognition Banquet was held on June 22nd at the Eagles Lodge. Speaker Dr. Jeanie Zsombok reviewed how things have changed over the last 40 years for adults with developmental disabilities. Award winners included New Customer of the Year, Luvata; Bob Pickerell Memorial, Midwest Acoust-a-Fiber; Community Service, Wendy Keathley and her therapy dogs; and special recognition of the Avey family for starting up the organization that became Alpha.

Alpha's 40th Anniversary is July 29th, which the Mayor has declared to be ALPHA DAY in Delaware. On **Friday, July 30th**, we will be celebrating our milestone with a bowling and pizza party at the Delaware Lanes from 6-9pm. Food will be provided by Donatos and admission is free. This includes 2 games of bowling and shoe rental. Come out with your family and help us celebrate 40 years of facilitating the integration and acceptance of individuals with developmental disabilities within society. **If you would like to attend, please contact Jana by phone at (740) 368-5810, ext. 101 or by email at janawatterson@alphagroup.net no later than Friday, July 23rd.**



Board of Director Updates

Welcome back Chairperson Larry Day! It's great to have Larry back after his medical leave and successful recovery. On July 1, the County Commissioners approved our building lease through 2025 - thanks to a lot of hard work from the Board and management team. The Board continues with strategic planning and getting to know our new CEO, David Nuscher. The Board hosted an open house for Dave on Thursday, July 1st. Community leaders, customers and staff turned out to enjoy snacks while getting to know Dave and his family.

Ah, Summer, what power you have to make us suffer and like it. Russell Baker

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Note Worthy

⇒ *Come to the Duck Races! For the 2nd year, Alpha's fundraiser will take to the river for the racing of the Ducks! Bring your family out on Saturday,*



August 21st (11am - 4pm) for fun at Mingo Park and Duck races on the Olentangy River. This year, Ducks can be rented or

purchased. Buy your Duck and decorate it for the race! See local merchants to sign up or come to the Alpha facility. You can also sign up the day of the event, but be sure to get there early so you don't miss the first race!

⇒ *Our peanut butter drive for Haiti earthquake relief was a huge success, thanks mainly to the efforts of our own Joe Scherler. We collected 144 jars of peanut butter and donated \$36 to help cover the shipping costs.*

⇒ *Our Alpha Employee Picnic will be held here at the facility on Friday, September 10th. If you are interested in volunteering, we can really use your help. Please contact Jana by phone at (740) 368-5810, ext 101 or email at janawatterson@alphagroup.net.*

Upcoming Special Events

- ⇒ 7/5 **Program Closed - July 4th**
- ⇒ 7/26 **FOA Meeting at 4:30pm**
- ⇒ 7/29 **ALPHA DAY!**
- ⇒ 7/30 **40th Anniversary Party**
- ⇒ 8/21 **Duck Races at Mingo Park**
- ⇒ 8/30 **FOA Meeting at 4:30pm**
- ⇒ 9/6 **Program Closed - Labor Day**
- ⇒ 9/10 **Alpha Employee Picnic**
- ⇒ 9/23 **Program Closed - Jug Day**
- ⇒ 9/27 **FOA Meeting at 4:30pm**

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Adult Day Support Service

In April, our group enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt and Easter dinner. We went to the Marion Palace Theatre and saw Lyle Lyle Crocodile, visited the Delaware County Arts Castle and saw their fabulous puppet show. One day we all got to wear our PJs to work and watch movies. We also enjoyed going to the Columbus Clippers ball game.

In May we started our gardening, visited the Bare Bowl and made lovely ceramics. We went to the Columbus Zoo and had a very long and amazing day at Cedar Point.

In June, as the weather became warmer, we ventured out to many parks, another Zoo trip and ate lunch on the State House lawn and listened to Slim White and the Avery's Band. We visited Amish country and went to the Heinis Cheese Farm and got to sample homemade cheeses. We had a Hawaiian Day party and luau, which was really good, and we all dressed up in grass skirts and had our pictures taken. A first for us was a trip to the Newport Aquarium, where some of us got to pet real baby sharks and starfish.

Ergon Employment Solutions

Wow! We have just completed our fourth week of Career Connections - a summer work program for youth. This year we have had 54 youth, ages 16 - 20, working at 13 different sites. First time sites this year include Alpha Administration, Giant Eagle Lewis Center, Delaware Humane Society, The Raisin Rack in Westerville, Shamrock Golf Course and the Jack Florence Pool. New skills these youth are learning are customer service, scanning, filing and reception work. Our other sites that have participated the last couple of years are Macy's Department Stores at Polaris and Tuttle Mall, Preservation Parks, Glen Ross Golf Course, Buehler's, Foertmeyer & Sons Greenhouse and Giant Eagle Westerville. If you have any questions about our summer program, please contact Kelly Sullivan at (740) 368-5820, extension 410.

Alpha Office & Lawn Service

Springing into summer has been extremely busy for the Office & Lawn guys. With the addition of The Ohio Expo Center mowing contract, we have been running 2 crews 5 days per week - sometimes with extended hours! Busy, busy, busy.

Alpha Manufacturing

The workshop has been keeping busy with ongoing jobs from Luvata, Delo Screw Products and Jegs. Arehart Metals has given us a new job that we started during the quarter. We are also looking at the possibility of a new job from AHP in the next few weeks.

Sales

What a busy quarter! In April, Alpha had a booth at the Sunbury/Big Walnut Chamber of Commerce Open House & Trade Fair. Our prime products were hits! The OSU Marketing class toured Alpha and saw a Charcoal Buddy demonstration while brainstorming marketing ideas for the Buddy. We had a booth at the Chef's Challenge in Michigan to display our sauces, FireBugs and Buddies. Everything was a big hit and we were able to place the Buddy in 4 locations throughout Michigan.

In May, Alpha was invited by Advance Post to have a booth at the Columbus Trade Show. Once again, our prime products were a hit with everyone! I attended the COGS event at Tech Columbus. This group meets quarterly and assists organizations in obtaining work with the military and government agencies. This has been a great asset in getting Alpha's name out to businesses that could use us as subcontractors.

In June, Jim, Dave and I met with the City of Delaware Planning Committee about the Duck Races, had everything approved and we are moving ahead with planning and other details. All divisions of Alpha were represented at the OPCR (Office of Procurement from Community Rehabilitation Programs) Tradeshow, as well as the prime products. I attended the presentation by the OSU Marketing class on the Charcoal Buddy. The level of research was amazing, as was their input on how we can improve our marketing. The Buddy was a hit with all the professors in attendance. The students even prepared a new video for us to place on our website! Dave and I attended the Grand Opening of Columbus State Community College - what an asset to our community. I also attended the Council for Older Adults 2010 Summer Festival.

During the quarter, we conducted a total of 23 tours for various businesses and placed our products in 16 locations.

Connie