

Technology Tips & Treats



Delta Kappa Gamma—Alpha State

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Using Web 2.0 applications for school and home

Web 2.0 refers to the read, write, interactive world of today's Internet. An assortment of free and easy to use web-based tools follow. All are available for Mac or PC users.

Flickr.com— online photo storage. Share and organize your photos. Users can log in with a Google, Yahoo or Facebook account or create a new account. All photos uploaded are viewable by other Flickr members. For private storage, there is a fee.

Animoto.com— build a video slideshow. With an account, users can upload pictures, add a visual design and music to create a personal video show. The free account provides some design templates and limited music tracks to use as background music. You may choose to upload music you have purchased or add the fee based account for more options. Sign up as an educator and you get a larger limit. For the educator link go to <http://animoto.com/education>

Picasa Web— online photo storage. The tool, a Google application, provides similar features to Flickr. Users can log in with a Google account, share images, create tags and add more storage inexpensively.

LiveBinders.com— an online three ring notebook of live tools. With this account, create organized binders for specific topics and search for other binders that have been created and shared for the public. Users have control of binders created.

Slideshare.com— share Power Point slide shows online. Upload a slide show and then provide a URL to members of an audience for later reference. This makes paper handouts a thing of the past.

Picnik.com— a basic photo editing tool. For cropping and resizing or correcting red eye, this is an easy to use tool. Upload an image, edit the image and download back to your computer with a new name.

computer and smart phone with a few settings checked.

Google docs provides online word processing, a presentation tool and a spreadsheet application and a form creator. Word, Power Point, Excel files can be imported to Google Docs for online collaborative sharing. A major advantage to bringing

The original image has not been altered.

Glogster.com— create an online poster. Glogster allows one to bring in images and text to create posters to express ideas. Great tools for classroom projects and theme-based learning.

Jing— create a quick video or picture of what you do on your screen. This is available from TechSmithat <http://www.techsmith.com/jing/>

Prezi.com— an online visual presentation tool. A completely different way to create a visual presentation. Presentations can be shared live online or downloaded to your computer and shared without connectivity.

Blogger.com— an easy to use blog site. Sign up through a Google account. Blogger lets you choose an attractive design template and layout options. One can begin a blog for work, school or home on any topic easily. Import images to support your blog writing, share

Have you used Google tools for more than just a search engine?

Google is a well know search engine but have you discovered other tools available with a Google account? An account is easy to create. Just go to <https://accounts.google.com> to start off. With this free account you receive a super easy to use email account but there is so much more. A calendar tool allows users to sync to your

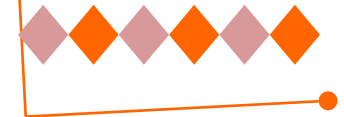
documents online is the sharing of the workload and to have only one version of a document, not many. You Tube has easy to understand videos to show each of these applications. The videos are titled, *In Plain English— Using Google Docs*. These series is developed by Common Craft and are simple and quick.

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This is a monthly publication created by the 2011-2013 Technology Committee. Our goal is to provide you with the most up-to-date technology information to assist you, your work and your chapter in the 21st Century!

Please let us know what you think of our newsletter at

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Shelly Redding,
Technology Committee
Chairman**



Technology Tip of the Month

Have you ever needed a document from your home computer when not at home? Here's a great solution—**Dropbox**.

Dropbox is another free Web 2.0 tool that gives a user online storage space plus it is viewable from any computer. As you invite others to set up an account, you get more free space. The max for free is 8 gigs.

Which portable tablet is for you?

Tablet computers have become popular portable devices for staying connected.

From iPad to Galaxy Tab, which one is best for you?

iPad2— Choose black or white

Price starts at \$499 with 16MG and climbs to \$699 with 64MG and WiFi only; \$499 to \$829 with WiFi and 3G, and an additional monthly contract for service with either Verizon or AT&T. The iPad2 is thinner, lighter and faster than before and has HD video and a 10 hour battery. Two cameras make face time and video conferencing possible. iPad2 measures 7.31” by 9.50” and weighs 1.3 pounds and is 0.34” thick. Apps installed on the iPad2 include Photo Booth, Mail, iBooks, Safari, Videos, Photos, Find my iPad, iPod, iTunes, the App store, Maps (Google), You Tube and a



Game Center. Over 90,000 apps are available at the App Store

for the iPad with more being added each day. The App Store offers Pages, Keynote, Numbers, iMovie, and Garage Band for the iPad2.

Accessories available include covers, headsets, camera connection kits, a Digital AV Adapter, a Dock Station, wireless keyboard, VGA Adapter, extra Power Adapter, a credit card reader, and a variety of stands. Smart covers come in a wide assortment of colors and provide protection, wakes up and helps the iPad2 stand up. to test drive the iPad2.

Galaxy Tab— Choose grey or white

The Galaxy Tab boasts a n HD wide screen of 1280



by 800, providing a 10.1” view-able screen. Each model, 10.1 or 8.9, has 16GB to 32GB memory options. Pricing for 16GBs is \$499 and 32GBs at \$599. This tablet comes equipped with the ability to use Flash Player. A front facing web cam and camera are included. WiFi compatibility provides Internet surfing. WiFi is available from Verizon, Sprint, AT&T, U.S. Cellular and T-Mobile. A 4G connection is offered by Verizon, 10.1 4G at \$629 with an additional contract. The device is also Bluetooth –enabled. Galaxy Tab measures 10.1 by 6.9 and weighs 1.3 pounds with a 14 hour battery. It stands at 3/8” in thick-

ness.

The Galaxy Tab is preinstalled with the Android operating system. Accessories include a docking station, vehicle adapter kit, an HDTV adapter, a power adapter, a USB cable and adapter, camera connection kit plus a book cover case and a Bluetooth keyboard case. The Galaxy Tab is capable of using an HTML browser, Google Maps, Mail, Office files, PDFs, Samsung apps, You Tube, Music Hub, Navigation, Music Player and Media Hub.

Now that you know a bit about two tablets, which one would you choose?
iPad or Galaxy Tab

Smartphones offer portability and connectivity

Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, free online tools, provide a method to stay connected using a portable computer, an iPad or a smartphone. Any laptop with connectivity can log on to Facebook to stay informed. But what if you don't have a laptop handy?. There are other options to stay connected. Have you ventured into the smart phone world? Which phone would you choose? How are they different? Android, iPhone, Blackberry and Samsung all

provide online connections, text messaging, image storage and a camera. AT&T, Verizon, Sprint and T-Mobile offer smartphones.

First-time users need to match needs, pricing, features and capabilities in mind when deciding what which smartphone to purchase and which provider to select.

The iPhone started a cell phone revolution with a touch screen and phone applications for doing many ordinary things. Now mos

smartphones have a touch screen, some with larger screens, and similar apps.

Many apps are free while others require payment. GPS functions, connectivity, games and text messaging are common features to all. Are you ready for a smartphone or an upgrade?

