

History of E-Peachy News: (Updated: May 23, 2008)

1998:

Prior to January 1998 when the Deaf community discovered that the State Government was going to shut down the Georgia Council for the Hearing Impaired and Georgia Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., the leaders (both deaf and hearing) were called to help form a big group to make a peace protest in front of the capitol. The group established a non-profit organization called D. E. A. F. The full name was: Demanding Equal Access ForAll. (ForAll is two words combined together for a letter "F"). Martha Timms accepted the president position and called for special meetings. She used email from work to send out messages. After the peace protest was completed successfully with the highest number of over 300 protestors in January 1998, Martha voluntarily sent out the updated messages to the group (Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Hearing people, parents and interpreters) with the given email addresses of 200.

1999:

As time passed, Martha continued sending messages, but she added the information and news in Atlanta, in Georgia, and out of Georgia. The mailing list kept growing and growing, reaching nearly 350 people who were interested to keep up with news. Martha had a difficult time keeping up the long list. Donna Leff found a yahoo group (the email system), which was new at that time, and informed Martha about it. They got together and formed a yahoo group for the Deaf community. The name Donna came up with at first was "Peach" (for our state Georgia), but to make the name more interesting they added "E", which stands for email, and "y" to end it. Thanks to Donna for creating the name! E-Peachy was founded in May of 1999! Martha and Donna worked together as co-moderators in a team voluntarily for few months. When Donna got the job to teach at the Atlanta Area School for the Deaf, she stepped down. Martha kept on doing it alone and has done it now for five long years on volunteer basis! By the time of May 2004, there would be approximately 5,000 messages! Big thanks to Martha, the current moderator!

2004:

The mailing list has grown to over one thousand and fifty people! The list contains all kinds of people: Deaf people, hearing people, interpreters, students (high school and college), parents of deaf children, leaders who are involved with Deaf community, and even people from out of state who want to join the Georgians in some events! For some people who wished to receive only the events and announcements they joined the E-Peachy BLUE. For some people who wanted to know about deaths, births, marriages, and other personal information, they joined the E-Peachy RED.

2005:

Martha Timms received an "Outstanding Deaf Person" Award from Georgia Association of the Deaf July 16, 2005 for her volunteer work on E-Peachy News. A New Website/host was created in September 29, 2005.. (<http://www.epeachynews.org>). One hundred percent (100%) of paid advertisements go to the web/host fund after October 1, 2005.

2006:

The mailing list reached over one thousand and seven hundred (1,700) subscribers.

2007:

During the week of June 18-22, 2007, Martha took a class at RIT on Web Development Dreamweaver CS3. Donna Leff was in the class with me. She drew a picture of peach for me, but I painted the peach with the photoshop. I learned more about the new Dreamweaver software. I learned more about the accessibility. E-Peachy's Webpage was redesigned to keep in simple for you!

2008:

May 2008 is E-Peachy News 9<sup>th</sup> Year. Martha Timms is still doing the volunteer work for E-Peachy News.