

Gamma Eta News

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Texas State, Dickens, Kent, King and Motley Counties



Terri's Tidbits



Congratulations!! If you are reading this, you have made it to the year 2021. The year 2020 was a challenging year for most of us. Those of you in the classroom had to find new ways to interact and educate your students, often from your home. Some of us had to adjust to the solitude of being at home, often alone. All of us lost friends and loved ones. The only thing I know for sure is that life seemed out of control.

Where is the magic switch to turn off the negative of 2020 and turn on the positive aspects in 2021? Since there is no switch and the turning of the calendar is not going to produce change, we must dig deep within ourselves to make 2021 an enjoyable and more productive year.

For the last several years, I have chosen a Word of the Year to help me stay focused. This year, I have chosen the word balance and the accompanying Bible verse of 2 Timothy 1:7: "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love and of a sound mind" (NKJV). Focusing more on the things I dream of doing and enjoy doing, as opposed to the mundane things that always must be done, will provide a new sense of purpose and bring more joy and peace to my soul.

I want this year to be different!! I am setting aside time each day for things I enjoy. I will devote more time to Bible reading and studying, spending more time with family in positive and meaningful ways, relearning to play the piano, journaling, coloring, going for walks, reading for enjoyment, etc.

I encourage you to find a word and possibly a Bible verse to hang on to this year. At our Zoom meeting in January, I would love to hear your word and Bible verse. You may have to experience a few days of January to find your word and verse. Do not worry if it does not immediately come to you. Your word will find you.

Happy New Year and God bless each one of you!

Terri

Upcoming Meeting:

Monday, January 11, 2021
6:00 p.m.
ZOOM Meeting
Program Title: Israel Trip
Program Facilitator: Donna Anderson

Please note the time change!!



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Melinda Jayne (Lindy) Armstrong Stafford was born on June 17th, 1944 to Lewis and Loutitia Armstrong in Dallas, Texas.

She graduated from Hillcrest High School in Dallas and attended Texas Christian University. It was there at TCU that she met her "country boy", Gale Stafford and what a match they were. Lindy often told the story of her first visit to the Stafford family. Being a "city girl" Lindy was new to ranch life. Her first meal at the Stafford's home consisted of the biggest platter of chicken fried steak she'd ever seen, it took a lot to feed those Stafford boys! She laughed and said that one can of tuna would feed her and her mom for 3 days! Being around 3 rowdy Stafford boys didn't scare her away though. She and Gale married on January 31, 1964. After several years in East Texas, Gale and Lindy moved back to Matador with Wesley and David in 1973. Lindy fell in love with Matador and its people. She put down deep roots. It was at that point Lindy returned to school and graduated from Texas Tech. She began her teaching career at Motley County ISD in 1977. Ms. Lindy, as she was lovingly known by her students, was passionate about education. She had high expectations for her students, but more importantly, in her kind but firm way, she taught the students to have high expectations for themselves. Even though she had a family at home that needed her, Lindy always made the time to work with any student and on the many school activities that fall in a teachers lap. She believed in the importance of UIL competitions and worked tirelessly to help the kids from Motley County have success. She spent late nights going over writing samples or listening to poems and prose being practiced. She knew the importance of giving kids a firm foundation before college and taught college level English classes at night for local and surrounding area kids. Ms. Lindy was never too busy to tutor that student that needed just a little extra help or encouragement along the way. She knew how to instill the confidence it took to take that extra leap to help people reach their goals. As in any small school

Ms. Lindy made her share of nachos and hot dogs at concession stands, took gate money at ballgames, sponsored classes and field trips and most importantly truly loved the kids of Motley County. After ending her teaching career Lindy began her job as the Transition Coordinator for the Rolling Plains Special Education Coop. Her kind and gentle spirit continued to help those kids with the most special needs. She used her talents to help prepare area students for a successful life after high school graduation.



Lindy retired in 2014 after 34 years. Her service to the kids of Motley County didn't stop. She has willingly and graciously served on the Motley County School board for the past 4 years. Lindy was often the calm voice of reason on the board. Because of her vast knowledge and experience with the school system fellow board members had a deep respect for her. An active member of the Matador United Methodist Church, Lindy served on numerous committees and loved her church family. Lindy loved to travel with friends and family. She had a special bond with her sisters-in-law, Julia and Diana, all wives of those Stafford boys, and spoke often of the yearly trips to Ruidoso they took together and all the fun they had. She loved the mountains of New Mexico and spent many summers with her family at her favorite destination, "the cabin" at Sipapu. Nothing made Lindy prouder than the men and husbands her boys became. She and Gale instilled in them strong Christian values and morals, manners and the kind hearts that they both possessed. She knew they had made wise choices and are genuinely good men. Her 4 grandsons were the apple of her eye. She was immensely proud of the job that Wesley and Tammi and David and Cynthia have done in raising her grandsons. Lindy loved attending all their many activities and sporting events. Living close to the school, one of her great joys was having an open house for Cameron and Andrew every day at lunch. Lindy was preceded in death by her husband, Gale, in 2003 and by her parents. She is survived by her two sons and their wives, Wesley and Tammi Stafford of Sweetwater and David and Cynthia Stafford of Roaring Springs; her four grandsons, whom she cherished, Connor Stafford of Mansfield, Cameron Stafford of Lubbock, Collin Stafford of College Station and Andrew Stafford of Roaring Springs; one brother and his wife, Andy and Barbara Armstrong; one brother-in-law, Richard Stafford; two sisters-in-law Diana Stafford and Shirley Gilliam; several nieces and nephews. Lindy is also survived by her special friend, Vann Francis of Matador and all the friends and former students she meant so much to in Motley County. Due to the COVID pandemic, no visitation or viewing will be held. A graveside service will be held on Thursday, Dec. 10th, at 2 p.m., at East Mound Cemetery in Matador. Friends and family are asked to please wear a mask and practice social distancing. Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 288, Matador TX 79244.



Gamma Eta Sisters Care

Please remember Brenda Karr and her family in your thoughts and prayers. Services for her mom were on Saturday, January 2, 2021.

Keep the family of Lindy Stafford in your thoughts and prayers.

Pray for a speedy recovery from a broken ankle of former Gamma Eta member Cheryl Hindman.

Debbi Ball's granddaughter Rylee will have surgery January 4th at Scottish Rite. Remember Rylee and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Pray for the vaccine for COVID-19 to be effective.

Remember the many DKG members who have lost loved ones during this pandemic.

Service Projects

International Service Project:

Schools for Africa
Support Early-Career Educators

State Service Project:

TBA

Chapter Service Project:

TBA

2020-2022 Officers

President: Terri Egerton

First Vice President: K Dee Anderson

Second Vice President: Tiffany Harkins

Recording Secretary: Janie Wigley

Corresponding Secretary: Jean Williams

Treasurer: Sharon McDougale

Parliamentarian: Donna Anderson

Future Meetings

Monday, March 1, 2021

5:30 p.m.

FUMC, Matador

Program Title: Everyone is an Artist

Gamma Eta Birthday Celebration

Program Facilitator: Debbi Ball

Matador Hostess Group (Nancy, Chelsea
Brenda, Cristy)

Monday, April 12, 2021

5:30 p.m.

Lubbock (TBA)

Program Title: National Parks

Founders' Celebrated

Program Facilitator: Tiffany Harkins

Lubbock Hostess Group: (Donna, K Dee,
Terri, Tiffany H., Tiffany M., Joy)

Janie Wigley, Editor

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Editor's Note: All clipart is from DKG, TSO or ASTEF websites.
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WE'RE ON THE WEB!!

<http://www.dkg.org/>

<http://www.dkgtexas.org/>

<http://www.astef.org/>

<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/TX-gammaeta/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/449077138462200/>

Happy New Year

Image by playa1973@pixabay.com



92nd Texas State Organization convention will be held in Denton, Texas. Activities will begin with the Children's Art Show and Leadership Seminar Reunions on Wednesday evening, June 16, and will conclude with the Celebration Brunch on Saturday, June 19.

Delta Kappa Gamma Mission

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Delta Kappa Gamma Vision

Leading women educators impacting education world wide.

Delta Kappa Gamma Theme

DKG: Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide



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September 11, 2017

**Pat**

November 6, 2017

Terri

There have been many "Gamma Eta Angels" in the last few years. Cheryl Hindman started the gifting of the angel at the end of her president's binnium. The pictures of others are on someone else's computer. The angel has made its rounds to most members and it will continue on as we know all members are deserving and will be welcomed into their home one day soon.

May 7, 2018

**Debbi**

Gamma
Eta
Angels

October 7, 2017

Brenda

January 8, 2018

Linda

December 3, 2018

Stephanie**Janie**

January 6, 2020

**Tiffany**

March 2, 2020