

Delta Kappa Gamma, Eta Chapter, (via Zoom)

April 9, 2022

9:45-9:50 Join Zoom meeting (First Vice-president, Bethany Miller, host)

Members began to join for the final meeting of this biennium by signing in to the Zoom platform via Chat. President Peggy Whetzel and 1st Vice President Bethany Miller welcomed the attendees and reminded everyone to register and also to mute when not talking.

10:00 Call to order and Welcome (President, Peggy Whetzel)

President Whetzel officially called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and shared her appreciation for everyone joining to be a part of this day.

First Vice President Bethany Miller reminded all that dues are due by April 30th.

Devotion-Gail Sherman

Gail began the morning's devotion by talking about her grandchildren and their love for and interest in different types of music as does she. She mentioned Psalm 89:1 where the Bible states, *"I will sing the mercies of the Lord forever."* Gail reminded us that there are different versions of that verse depending on which you are reading, but the message is the same. Another version she found for Psalm 89:1 was *"Forever and ever I will sing about tender mercies of the Lord, young and old shall hear about your blessings."*

What does music really mean? Music tells our stories, our needs, our delights, and our joys through hymns such as "This Little Light of Mine, I'm Going to Let it Shine," or "I Need Thee Every Hour," "Count Your Blessings," "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus." Also mentioned were "Thy Word Is a Light," "Sweet Hour of Prayer," "I Got Peace Like a River," and "It Is Well With My Soul." Several additional hymns were listed as being most appropriate and inspiring for this meeting. Gail then led us in prayer to begin our time together.

Roll Call: sign in via Chat on Zoom.

There were 33 registered with one guest.

Introduction of New Members

President Whetzel began the introduction of our new members by recapping that on the 20th of March at an outdoor gathering, Eta Chapter welcomed these exemplary educators at an induction ceremony.

The DKG Eta Chapter new inductees for 2022 are Christal Akers, Morgan County; Cary Burgoyne, Berkeley County; Kaitlin Thornsell Grantham, Jefferson County; Abigail C.Hjort-Michel, Berkeley County; and Candice Pennington, Morgan County.

Approval of secretary's report-Meeting Minutes (Recording Secretary, Laura Richmond)

President Whetzel made reference to the minutes which had been emailed to all members earlier in the week. She recognized Laura Richmond, recording secretary, who wished to correct the spelling of member Suzanne DeVoe which was amended for the record.

Myrtle Holland moved to accept the minutes with the correction - Bett Sims offered a second. Minutes approved.

Treasury Report (Treasurer, Janet Lohr)

Janet Lohr presented the Treasurer's report with corrections from the attachment emailed earlier in the week. The ending balance as of April 9, 2022 was \$21,549.01. The corrections were voiced and will be filed as our final audit.

Correspondence Report (Corresponding Secretary, Anne Helmick)

There was no correspondence to Eta this month, but Anne thanked everyone for their faithful RSVP replies in helping her to keep records for attendance, etc.

Concerns for Others (Second Vice-president, Nancy Broadley).

Nancy referred to those who submitted their concerns which included **Ronda Albright** - All those with Covid or other health issues, or loss, and the issues resulting from these situations. **Tracy Horner** – Please continue to pray for the teachers. We are hurting and worn out. **Harriet Kopp** – My prayers and concerns go to the Ukraine people. **Julia Linaweaver** – I wish for the members to pray for my minister's wife. Thank you. **Linda Martin** - I am having cataract surgery on April 5 for one eye and will have surgery on the other eye two weeks later. **Linda McGraw** – Hopefully, we can remain healthy as we shed our masks. Concerns for world peace and the end of dictatorships. **Ruth Potts** – Our nephew Zac has a spot on his kidney. He saw a doctor at George Washington Hospital and one at NIH. The first step is a biopsy to determine to take part of the kidney or the whole kidney. The family needs lot of prayers. Thanks **Peggy Whetzel** - Please continue to lift up our sisters who are caring for family members.

Committee Reports (Committee Chair or designee)

President Whetzel then asked for reports from committees.

Nancy Springer (**Outstanding Member of Eta**) No report

Patty Stealey (**Archives**). No report

Joslyn Noland (**Bylaws and Standing Rules**). No report

Sonja Waters (**Communications**) She is finishing newspaper articles for the album for the conference.

Mary Beth Cornell (**Community Awareness**) No report

Peggy Grantham (**Convention and Long Range Planning**) No report

Linda Work (**Disaster**) No report

Cindy Wood (**Finance**) They will meet after June 30th and will audit. The new treasurer will begin her term after that time.

Andi Hasley (**Legislative**) Janet Lohr -No report

Kathy Yost (**Literacy**). No report, but she wanted to determine the number for the book drop for the three counties. Janet Lohr set May 15th for last book drop offs. She sincerely thanked everyone for donating for to the book swap and book drop.

Nancy Broadley (**Membership and Expansion**) No report

Beth Sims (**Music**) No report

Nomination committee - Jay Russell deferred to the Introduction of New Officers later in program.

Sue Flanagan (**Personal Growth and Services**) reminded us to be careful of eating too much Easter candy and to get out and enjoy the beautiful weather.

Rebecha Catlett (**Professional Affairs**) Report later in the program.

Bethany Miller (**Program**) No report. Bethany thanked everyone who replied in the affirmative to assist in programs when she would contact for participation.

Suzanne DeVoe (**Scholarship**) No report.

Vicki Jenkins (**Scrapbook**) Ronda Albright reported that she and Vicki have been working on the scrapbook. One more session and will be ready for submission at the State convention.

Rachel Ringler (**Technology**) No report

Rosa Clark (**World Fellowship/International Projects**). No report.

President Whetzel declared this a record- breaking time for reports from committees!

Special Activities:

Memorial Ceremony (Bethany Miller and Program committee)

Delta Kappa Gamma Memorial Service April 2022

Peggy Whetzel

“The celebration of a person’s life recalls the person now gone who has left us with wonderful memories. These women we honor today- **Linda McLaughlin, Reva Mickey, Mary Jane Davis, and Doris Costello**- have lived a full life as professionals and as members of Delta Kappa Gamma. They were educators who changed the lives of the children, parents and professionals with whom they came in contact. They were educational leaders. They will be missed, but have they left us with nothing but tears? No, they have left us a legacy that we must embrace, the mission of our Society, to promote professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.”

Mary Beth Cornell read *Guiding Memories* by David Harkin followed by the obituary for Linda McLaughlin shared by Sonja Waters.

Obituary for Linda McLaughlin

Linda Diana Lantz McLaughlin, 70, of Charles Town, WV passed away Thursday, May 6, 2021 at UVA in Charlottesville, VA.

Born April 26, 1951, in Buckhannon, WV, she was the daughter of the late Dennis Revere Lantz and Dorothy Lea Pletcher Lantz.

Linda was a member of Elk Branch Presbyterian Church.

Linda was a graduate of Buckhannon-Upshur High School and Fairmont State, Class of 1973, where she met Lee. She was a Jefferson County educator at Wright Denny for her entire 39 years career, teaching fourth grade. Linda was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma. In past years, she was very involved with the Jaycee Women and the Miss Shenandoah Scholarship organization.

She is survived by her loving husband of 47 years, Lee, at home; two daughters, Emily P. Seal of Martinsburg, WV and Megan L. McLaughlin of Charles Town; one son, Ryan McLaughlin and wife, Laura of Martinsburg; seven grandchildren, Alyssa, Lyla, Eva, Mia, Addison, Carson and Jade, o

ne sister-in-law, Julia Warner and husband, Danny, nieces and nephews, Dana and D.J. and their families.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in

death by her granddaughter, Kaelyn, sister, Carolyn Lantz, son-in-law, Shane Seal and uncle, Paul Lantz.

Services will be held at 11:00 am on Friday, May 14, 2021 at Eackles-Spencer & Norton Funeral Home, 256 Halltown Road, Harpers Ferry, WV with Pastor David Beeson officiating. Interment will be in Edge Hill Cemetery in Charles Town, WV.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Thursday from 5-8 pm.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Elk Branch Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 110, Shenandoah Junction, WV 25442.

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Gail Sherman who served as sponsor for Linda to Eta Chapter offered personal reflections of her dear friend. Linda was Gail's 'go to gal.' Linda was a real leader and a great asset at Wright Denny Intermediate School. She was always ready to work with Gail on textbook committees. Gail was so proud for Linda to see her daughter, Emily, become a member of Eta. Linda was a model in so very many ways.

*Obituary for **Reva Mickey**
Personal Reflections by Kathy Bennett*

Reva Nicodemus Mickey, 82, of Charles Town, WV, passed away peacefully on November 4, 2021, at her home on Cloverdale Farm surrounded by her loving family under the care of Hospice of the Panhandle. Reva was born on April 27, 1939, in Charles Town. She is the daughter of the late Calvin Lee and Mary (Royston) Nicodemus.

Reva was one of those rare people who made serving and educating others her lifelong mission, and who managed to successfully balance her family life, career, farming, community work and political leadership. Reva was a West Virginia University Graduate. She devoted her professional life to te

aching, having worked for Jefferson County Schools as an English Teacher at Charles Town Junior High School, and as a Substitute Teacher. Reva was married in 1963 to G. Warren Mickey, and after the arrival of their cherished children, she became a Stay-at-Home-Mom, and a part-time member of the Curriculum Improvement Center at Shepherd College under the direction of Dr. James Moler. Eventually she went back to work as an Elementary Guidance Counselor in Boyce, Virginia, where she stayed until her retirement. Reva was a faithful member of the Asbury United Methodist Church in Charles Town, and served as a Worthy Matron at the Charles Town Lodge #128 Order of The Eastern Star. She was actively involved in West Virginia Democratic Politics, earning the high honor of being named the West Virginia Democrat of the Year in 2010, and serving as Chair of the local Democratic Committee for many years. Reva was a founding member of the Jefferson County 4-H Foundation, and a 4-

H leader with the Bullskin Happy Workers for over 15 years.

Reva Mickey is survived by her loving devoted husband of 58 years G. Warren "Jim" Mickey; her sister-in-

law Delores C. Nicodemus of Charles Town; her son, Jason Lee Mickey and wife Michelle, her daughter, Mary Margaret Reagan, both of Charles Town; her Russian daughter, Sasha Phillips and husband Ed of Pittsburgh, PA; 6 grandchildren: Michael Mickey, Mickey Reagan, Tatiana Williams, Vladimir Williams, Sophia Williams, and Vera Williams; her great-niece Kristen Blake Nicodemus, of Falling Waters, WV, and her great-nephew Roman Anthony Nicodemus, of Los Angeles, CA. She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Charles Richard Nicodemus, and her nephew Calvin Douglas Nicodemus of Los Angeles, CA.

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Kathy Bennett reviewed the obituary for Reva Mickey and shared her personal reflections. Kathy said that one of the things she remembered was the voice of Reva who spoke with authority and "spunk." She was so knowledgeable about many topics - a walking encyclopedia. Reva knew all there was to know about Jefferson County. Parliamentary procedure was one of her strong suits. She was a 'spiffy dresser.' Reva was DKG through and through. She was Eta Chapter's energizer bunny - her battery was always charged.

*Obituary for **Mary Jane Davis** was presented by **Bethany Miller**.*

Mary Jane Small Davis, 83, of Spring Arbor of Winchester, Virginia, formerly of Charles Town and Shepherdstown, died Friday, January 7th, 2022 at Blue Ridge Hospice Inpatient Care Center in Winchester. Mary Jane was born March 23, 1938, in Martinsburg, WV, the third child and only daughter of the late William and Grace Small.

She was a graduate of Martinsburg High School and Shepherd College (now University). At Shepherd, where Mary Jane earned a BA in Elementary Education, she was a member of Alpha Sigma Tau sorority and reigned as Homecoming Queen in 1958. Later in life, she supported the University's Foundation as a member of the Scarborough Society and by establishing a scholarship for education students. Her teaching career started in

Berkeley County, continued in Newport, RI, and later resumed in Jefferson County where she spent 30 years in the school system, first at Millville School and then at South Jefferson Elementary School. Mary Jane relished teaching first grade, and teaching a child how to read never failed to thrill her. Mary Jane was a long-time member of Zion Episcopal Church and Delta Kappa Gamma Society.

Mary Jane is survived by her daughter and son-in-

law, Anne and Dave Strider of Charles Town, two grandsons, David Strider of New York, NY, and Joseph Strider (Charlotte) of New York, NY, and a granddaughter, Susan Strider Copen (Mike) of Walkersville, MD, along with two great-grandsons, Jackson and Parker Copen.

In addition to her parents, Mary Jane was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, James McKinley Davis, and two brothers, Dr Donald Small of Cambridge, OH, and Howard Small of Hagerstown, MD.

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Personal reflections of Mary Jane were shared by Gail Sherman. Mary Jane always greeted Gail (everyone really) with a smile. She loved life, her family, and her students who were so very important to her. She called the students her kids. Mary Jane was Gail's cheerleader in serving when Gail was elected as president for Eta Chapter in 1998. Mary Jane had told Gail she would host the Christmas Tea in December of that year to help her in during her term. A side note to her hosting, Mary Jane would tell of when they moved to their house there were pigs running under the porch...a story of which she shared with much delight. She could deal with parents in such a wonderful, loving way. Mary Jane was patient and kind. Gail suspects that her husband, Jim, is taking her on a ride all over heaven.

Kathy Bennett chose to give her reflections of Mary Jane as well. She was a "Lady" with a southern charm for her friends and new acquaintances, too. Mary Jane was never pushy - such a wonderful, gentle, warm, and so inviting woman. She always loved having folks visit in her home. A favorite memory of Kathy was, in fact, that Christmas Tea in 1998 when Mary Jane insisted on showing Kathy the house and its history. When they arrived at the newly renovated master bathroom, Mary Jane told her that this pink marble room was a source of pride of the house. She was so loving with a charm to be admired.

Jay Russell read the obituary for Doris Costello

Doris Clevenger Costello, 92, of Halltown, West Virginia, passed away Sunday, March 13, 2022, at Jefferson Medical Center in Ranson, WV.

Doris was born on December 10, 1929, the daughter of Jessie and Edwin Clevenger of Halltown. She was an avid reader throughout her life and was proud of her hard work as a scholar. She graduated as the Valedictorian of her class at Harper

s Ferry High School in 1947. Doris was grateful to immediately continue her education at Shepherd College, an opportunity she knew was not afforded to most women at that time. By 1951, she had graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences and a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education. She went on to complete additional teaching certification hours at George Washi

ngton University and received her lifetime teaching certificate in West Virginia in 1980.

Doris started teaching at Brunswick High School in September of 1951 and taught there until June of 1959. During her time there, she taught core curriculum for all eighth-grade students, and biology, anatomy, and physiology for tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students. Doris always had fond memories of her time in Brunswick and continued to receive letters from her students through the final weeks of her life. She gave birth to her only child, Mary Lane Edge (nee Costello), in December of 1959, and considered ending her

teaching career at that time. In 1962, she began what was intended to be a long-term substitute position at Harpers Ferry High School, and taught there until her retirement 26 years later, in June of 1988. During her time there, she taught seventh-grade life science, ninth-grade physical science, and tenth-grade biology. She was designated as Head Teacher from 1967 until her retirement and served as principal whenever needed during that time. Overall, her teaching career lasted 34 years, and remained her proudest achievement to the end of her life.

Doris remained active following her retirement, including her dedicated membership to Delta Kappa Gamma, an International Society of Women Educators. She was invited to join in 1982 and considered many women from this organization to

be her closest friends until the day she died. She served with the American Red Cross as Blood Services Coordinator for Jefferson County from 1989 until the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic and was recognized by the American Red Cross in 2014, for 25 years of dedicated volunteer service. She was a member of the Presbyterian Women's organization for Halltown Presbyterian Church and served as leadership chairman for the Women of the Church of the Shenandoah Presbytery. She served on the task force for the consolidation of the Winchester and Lexington Presbyteries, on behalf of PCUSA, which resulted in the formation of the Shenandoah Presbytery. This is now recognized as the largest presbytery, based on membership, in the United States. She served as a Deacon and Elder at Halltown Presbyterian Church for 51 years and volunteered as the pianist and organist there from their organization in 1960 until 2020. Doris helped to form the Harpers Ferry Alumni Association and was honored as their Distinguished Member in 2017.

Doris is survived by one sister, Sherry Symons; brother-in-law, Charles Symons; son-in-law, Roger Edge, and granddaughters, Erin and Kari Edge.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sister Myrna Bowers; nephew Bruce Bowers, and her loving husband of 52 years, Alexander "Alec" Costello. She lost her only child, Mary Lane Edge, in 2020, after a three-year battle with brain cancer. A loss from which Doris never fully recovered.

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Following the obituary, Jay offered personal reflections from Jim Arbogast, husband of Eta member, Kathy Arbogast. Jim completed his student teaching in the spring of 1968, 54 years ago. His assignment was in biology and social studies at Harpers Ferry High School working with 38-

year-old Doris Costello. He remembers her as a wonderful guide in presenting information and knowledge to students.

Jay also added that Doris was a dear and loving educator with a wonderful sense of humor. The stories she would tell about herself and Eleanor Ann Shirley were memories for us all.

Nancy Broadley continued with a reading, *Remembering*

President Whetzel and Bethany Miller led in the Candle Lighting portion of the Memorial Service. In loving memory, we light these white candles for our sisters whom we've lost this year. May we remember them always and carry on with the legacy they've left.

Bett Sims lead us in singing "Amazing Grace" as we raised our candles in memory and in honor of these amazing women.

Sue Flanagan referred to Psalm 121 as part of the conclusion of our celebration for our Eta sisters and Teresa Campbell read "The Rose Still Grows Beyond the Wall" by A.L. Frink.

Grants-In-Aid presentation (Professional Affairs Committee)

In the absence of committee chair, Rebecha Catlett, President Whetzel led in the report for her. Peggy reminded us that Eta was, once again, able to offer \$700.00 to each of three female students (representing the counties of the panhandle) who are majoring in education at Shepherd University. Those students receiving the Eta award are Elizabeth Seals, Berkeley County; Kristen Ruppenthal, Morgan County; and Julia Bivens, Jefferson County. The students will be forwarding their bios and photos to Rebecha, and then she will pass that information on to Eta members at a later date.

Remarks (Outgoing President, Peggy Whetzel)

Peggy began by saying that this is her final meeting as president. She never dreamed that with the exception of one meeting, the entire biennium would be via Zoom/online. She was just overwhelmed by the love and support of all the members of our organization. She declared that we have persevered - we've grown. We collected for EPIC and RAPP, supplies for new teachers, just to name a few.

She then chose to present Rose awards to her executive committee and Eta members who contributed to making this 2020-2022 a success.

Jay Russell - who always said, "Yes."

Sue Flanagan - who always took the responsibilities and tasks she was given seriously.

Rebecha Catlett - who gave her guidance and answered many, many questions about the many responsibilities which follow for those who agree to serve as president.

Janet Lohr - who agreed to be the treasurer.

Nancy Broadley - who is a basket of sunshine. She helped in any way needed with a cheerful heart.

Laura Richmond - who wrote interesting and thorough minutes.

Anne Helmick - worked her magic in contacting members and in collecting correspondence.

Myrtle Holland - volunteered to help with every project we had and served as parliamentarian.

Bethany Miller - Peggy's hero who handled, so beautifully, the technology for Zoom and was a constant help throughout this biennium as she served as first vice president.

Jay Russell spoke for the membership and thanked Peggy for serving as our president in such a wonderful and dedicated manner.

Introduction of New Officers (Newly elected President, Teresa Campbell)

Teresa Campbell from Berkeley County has agreed to serve as our president.

Vicki Jenkins from Berkeley County will serve as first vice president.

Janet Lohr from Berkeley County will transition from treasurer to second vice president.

Linda McGraw from Morgan County will become our corresponding secretary.

Rebecha Catlett from Berkeley County will serve as Recording secretary.

Peggy Grantham will be our new treasurer from Jefferson County.

Jay Russell from Morgan County has agreed to be the parliamentarian.

President Whetzel handed the gavel to Theresa Campbell (shown in photo) as our new president.

Teresa shared her theme for this new biennium - **Pursuing Excellence Through DKG. — Determination, Knowledge and Growth.** She shared the many Eta Chapter members who paved the path for her becoming part of this organization and also who have meant so very much to her.

Delta Kappa Gamma song (Bett Sims)

We all sang along for this last time in the 2020-2022 biennium.

Blessing- Gail Sherman.

Gail concluded our wonderful time of gathering with a beautiful prayer of blessing.

Adjournment. Theresa Campbell, newly elected president dismissed our meeting. Adjournment was at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura P. Richmond
Recording Secretary for Eta Chapter
WV State DKG