

## **Remember Our Delta Sigma Sister Becky Burke**

By Rhonda Hager



Delta Sigma member Rebecca “Becky” Collins Burke, age 79, passed away on Wednesday, May 27, 2020. Heaven gained another angel and DKG member with her passing.

shared how encouraging Becky was to them in difficult situations. She was the type of teacher who asked her principal to assign her the children who needed the extra love and support. She had a special way with children who had difficulty learning. She said they needed extra loving. Becky loved and supported children in her classroom and as they moved to middle and high school. She said they were her children, not just in 5th grade, but for life.

Becky is survived by her husband Rondel Burke; son Joel Burke (Marietta) of Newton; and grandchildren, Wesley Burke, David Burke and Charlotte Burke. She was born December 26, 1940 in Lincoln County to the late Paul B. Collins and Precyous Hoyle Collins. Becky followed in her mother’s footsteps and became an incredible teacher. She was an elementary school teacher for 42 years, having taught at Northbrook, Asbury, Oaklawn, and S. Ray Lowder schools. Becky also worked at the Teacher’s Learning Center. During this portion of her career, Jill Eaddy and Becky drove a bus all over the county offering professional development to teachers. In addition, she taught ceramics through Gaston College for 25 years.

Becky was so loved by her students and her fellow teachers. Upon her death, social media was flooded with comments about how Becky made a difference in their lives. Former students shared how Becky touched their lives in different ways. Colleagues

Besides teaching children in the classroom and adults in ceramics, Becky was very active in the community. She was lead instrumentalist at Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church where she also served as the church treasurer. She used her gifts to glorify God each week as she played and Rondel directed the music. Becky was also a strong supporter the NC Symphony and assisted in bringing the Symphony to Lincoln County annually to perform for 5th graders. Becky worked with the Lincoln County Historical Association, actively informing folks about Lincoln County history. In addition, she served as the membership chair of the Lincoln County Retired Teachers’ Association. She and her husband, Rondel, were active and faithful members of this organization.

Lincoln County lost a great community leader, teacher, and benefactor with the passing of Becky Burke.



Dear Sisters,  
You are an amazing group of sisters!!! You continue to sparkle and grow as women educators shining brightly during this pandemic and supporting each other.

I have so appreciated each of you reaching out to other Delta Sigma sisters and checking in on folks. This spring has been like no other time in my life, and we will always remember the COVID-19 virus and the pandemic where one Friday in March the children went home for the weekend and did not return for the rest of the school year. It is UNBELIEVABLE when you really ponder that happened! As educators, we take every situation and learn from the experience and try to get better for future opportunities. I am so extremely proud of LCS educators and how the good work for students continued during the pandemic by preparing student packets and providing online learning opportunities. The network of teachers, counselors, bus drivers, teacher assistants, support staff and administrators provided thousands of meals for students and made deliveries of food, packets, and other supplies into the community directly to the students. This has been a time where I feel all schools were able to reach out to their community directly and work collaboratively. Parades were held to show the love of students by educators. We are SO blessed to have such quality staff in LCS that care deeply for kids. Hats off to all who contributed to make the best of the spring of 2020 for our students!!! We do what we do for the students.

As I pause to ponder, I have mixed emotions as I prepare my last President's comments for the final newsletter of this biennium. It has been such an honor and privilege to serve as the Vice-President and President of our Delta Sigma chapter. I have grown as a leader and as a DKG member over the last four years as your leader. I have so enjoyed getting to know each of you better and working alongside you as we work to improve education in

Lincoln County and in our world as Women Educators. It has been exciting to attend NC DKG state conventions and an International Convention. The network of quality educators around the state and world are phenomenal! I hope you will consider not just getting more involved in our chapter in the coming year, but also participate in regional, state, and international events. I am so excited about our upcoming two years under Kennan's leadership. I have so much respect for her work and passion for helping all kids succeed and providing the needed support for kids in poverty. We are blessed to have her as our next president.

I hope you enjoy the summer and relaxing time with families and friends. My son Ben will be finishing his home by the end of summer and Alyssa will be returning to NCSU for her last semester of undergraduate studies. She will graduate in December 2020. Our nest will be empty come August, but in the meantime we are enjoying priceless time together as a family at the Hager place. Blessing to you all for a great summer of 2020.

Sincerely,  
Rhonda Keever Hager  
Delta Sigma President 2018-2020  
704-740-8278  
[rhondahager2013@gmail.com](mailto:rhondahager2013@gmail.com)

## Cancelled vs Cancelled?

Confused about the spelling for the past tense of cancel? We have been too! Most dictionaries say both spellings are acceptable! NC DKG has chosen to use cancelled with two l's since the word cancellation always has two and using one in canceled and two in cancellation looks inconsistent. We hope things are settling down and nothing else will be cancelled so we don't need to use it any time soon!



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## Message from Dr. Teresa Cowan, NC DKG President



### Facing Challenges In Spite of Obstacles

John C. Maxwell, author of *How Successful People Grow*, believes in order to grow, one must recognize the difference between a challenge and a fact of life.

A fact of life, like your genetic profile, is something you cannot change, whereas a challenge is something you can change and you can GROW through! Challenges, along with their obstacles, are opportunities for change. Change ultimately stimulates GROWth.

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Let's remember the challenges and obstacles we have grown through as this pandemic (hopefully) draws to a close. Knowing challenges will continue to present themselves, let's agree to look for constructive change in order to GROW.

Here are the **Three S's** that help me face challenges in spite of obstacles:

1. **Surround** yourself with supportive people who push you beyond what you believe capable!
2. **Structure** your day to include time for nurturing of the mind, body and spirit!
3. **See** yourself as capable - in spite of what the world might be saying to you!

Quote from Loretta Lynn, "You've got to continue to grow or you're just like last night's cornbread, stale and dry!"

Question to ponder:

What are you doing to prevent becoming "stale and dry" chapters? What steps are you taking to stay fresh and GROW?

## Collegial Exchange Submissions

Your mind is racing with all that you did this year with virtual school sessions and how your students reacted. Put your thoughts onto paper and share them in an article to the *DKG Bulletin: Collegial Exchange*. The deadline is August 1, 2020.

Collegial Exchange is a print publication with no designated theme. Ideas for topics include a viewpoint piece, DKG or classroom practice or program, poetry, or creative works.

Submit articles to [bulletin@dkg.org](mailto:bulletin@dkg.org). [Click here for submission guidelines](#) on the DKG website once logged in.

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## Significance of the Iris

The iris (*Iris xiphium*) symbolizes hope, cherished friendship and valor, all characteristics to help us think positively in these trying times. The Chinese people refer to the Iris as the "Purple Butterfly" because it reminds them of fluttering butterflies. A gift of iris bulbs brings hope with each returning spring. Watch for the irises in this issue and know we are sending good wishes of hope.



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## Leadership Redefined Seminar

Leadership Redefined is a virtual event to be held Monday, July 13, 2020 from 9 AM to 11 AM CST. The guest speaker is author Dave Weber. Dave shatters the typical view of leadership which revolves around title, authority, or responsibility and shares groundbreaking insights that reflect a new reality in education - A leader is anyone who has influence. Attendees will learn simple strategies that will help them put into practice real leadership skills that will have a positive influence in every area of their life.

The seminar, offered in part by a Lucile Cornetet Seminar Professional Development Award, is available to DKG members and non-members. To attend, please use the following link to register:

[Link to Form](#)

The deadline to register is Monday, July 6, 2020. A valid e-mail address is required to receive the link to attend the Leadership Redefined seminar.

Contact Michelle Steen Tennessee State Leadership Development Committee Chair at [mnsteen@bellsouth.net](mailto:mnsteen@bellsouth.net) or Tennessee State President Beverly Hall at [bnhosa@msn.com](mailto:bnhosa@msn.com) with any questions.

Members are encouraged to attend this multi-state event and to share with fellow educators.

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## DKG Gallery of Fine Arts

Submit your photography, painting, drawings, mixed media, crafts and poetry August 15, 2020 – September 15, 2020. Elaine Boysworth and Linda Yoder entered their artistic work and were recognized in the 2019 Gallery. Linda Yoder was recognized again for her photography in the Spring 2020 Gallery for her two photographs – “Tranquil Moose Lake” and



“Tranquil Moose Lake” by Linda Yoder

“Wildflower.” Submit and be recognized for your artistic talent!

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## Beware of Phishing Scams

Phishing scams have become bolder and more sophisticated but they still have one aim—scam the recipient out of money or personal information to take your money!



Several emails currently circulating purport to be from state or international leaders, including President Teresa and President Cathy. Be assured they will not send you an email asking for gift cards or your Amazon account.

One recent email hitting NC DKG chapters included a letter from the president to the treasurer asking her to urgently send a payment of \$3,850.00 to a vendor. The email address was not the president’s email even though it was her name, so close inspection was needed.

A few recent blog posts by the International Communications and Marketing Committee address phishing and include tips on how to avoid being taken in by scammers. Read them at <http://dkgsi.blogspot.com/search/label/Communications%20and%20Marketing%20Committee>.

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## Let’s Hear from our Members

Calling ALL members! Tell about your favorite binge watching during COVID-19 Pandemic? No judging I promise! We will create list for Delta Sigma in the September Newsletter. Please send to Rhonda the name of the favorite show or series and why you enjoyed it so much. This information will be used to create a list for our September newsletter so we can share good stuff for watching and learn more about each other’s likes. Please send your binge worthy choices to Rhonda Hager at [rhondahager2013@gmail.com](mailto:rhondahager2013@gmail.com) or by July 31st.

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## MORE in our Future

By Kennan Eaddy



As incoming President for the upcoming biennium, I've thought a lot about what my vision is for our group. In searching for what I wanted my role to be beyond leading meetings, I kept coming back to what Delta Kappa Gamma has been for me.

Five years ago, when I moved to Lincoln County and became a member, I wasn't sure what my place was in the group. My mother is a Delta Sigma member as well as a handful of my second-mothers, so I just followed them around and listened. Our group is filled with remarkable members, women who have been my teachers, my principals, and senior leadership in the county office.

What could I possibly contribute to this group who filled me with admiration and intimidation? But as I attended more and more meetings, and talked to more and more members, my feelings started to change. I felt like I belonged in the group - not just a sense of community but a sense of worthiness. Being around smart, talented, strong women made me feel like a smart, talented, strong woman. As I listened to our members' voices, I began to find my own. Being a powerful female educator doesn't necessarily take direct teaching and coaching. It can happen simply from consistently being in the presence of other powerful female educators.

My vision for the next biennium is simple: MORE. More of you. More of us. More showing up. More showing off. I want to increase our attendance and engagement to ensure that every one of our amazing members' talents are being showcased. I want to continue growing this network that fosters and celebrates strong female leaders. We all have very full plates, and I'm proud to be part of a group of women who continually

make room for the growth and strengthening of the educators in their community. I was nurtured by our group of leaders and hope we can be a source of inspiration for more young educators as they join us. Do not ever underestimate the power in your simply showing up.

## Committee Reports

**Beginning Teacher Support** - *Katie Crocker & Edwina Beam (Co-Chairs)*

During the past two academic years, the Beginning Teacher Committee has created a quarterly treat for BT 1 and

2's. These treats are given to the beginning teacher during their quarterly meetings which were held at the county office. The committee has continued to hold a question/answer panel each year for new teachers. This is definitely a positive event. We appreciate all the DKG members who have helped the BT committee with these events.



**Scholarship, World Fellowship and Schools for Africa** - *Judy Shuford & Sara Miller (Co-Chairs)*



During this biennium the Scholarship/World Fellowship/Schools for Africa committee has presented seven awards. In 2019, the

committee presented two Delta Sigma Future Educator Scholarships to Hannah Turner of West Lincoln High School and Sierra Thompson of East Lincoln High School. The Most Promising Young Woman Educator Award went to Reagan Heavner of Battleground School. Heather Myers, Principal of East Lincoln Middle School, received the Delta Sigma Certificate of Recognition for Professional Development. For 2020 Caroline Jenkins of West Lincoln High School received the Annette Geymont Memorial Scholarship. Hayley Navarro of East Lincoln High School received the Delta Sigma Future Educator Scholarship. Receiving the Most Promising Young Woman Educator Award was Haley Hallman of S. Ray Lowder Elementary

School. No one applied for the Advanced Degree Scholarship in 2020.

The Delta Kappa Gamma International Scholarship Application is available online at [dkg.org](http://dkg.org) and due February 1, 2021. It is available for those seeking an advanced degree or working on a doctorate. Also, various Cornet and Ignite Scholarships for Professional Development are available. Deadlines are September 1, 2020 through December 2021.

**Education Law and Policy** – Thank you to *Kelly Withrow and Jennifer Carroll*

for their leadership with this committee. Although they were both serving as new principals, they made Delta Sigma a priority by being present at events and Executive Board meetings. *Heather Myers* will be leading this committee for the next two years. It will be a great time of learning how we as DKG members can help to get our voice heard through education law and policy in our district, state, and nation.



**Membership and Nominations** - *Brenda Kinney & Kristen Reynolds (Co-Chairs)*

This past year we inducted 11 new members into Delta Sigma. Thanks to the nominations, induction, and support of our members, our chapter is growing and thriving. The committee orchestrated several other events including our first Delta Sigma's Celebration of Remembrance for Annette Geymont. We know that the incoming committee will do a wonderful job. We appreciate so many answering our questions and supporting us during our time as committee co-chairs! *Rhonda Hager* will be chairing this committee for the next two years. One of the first tasks of this committee is to plan the Celebration of Remembrance for Becky Burke.



**Finance** - *Libby Fletcher*  
On May 21st, Laurie Sellers, outgoing treasurer, called a working meeting to assist Lori Haight, incoming treasurer, transition into her new position for the next biennium. Past treasurers, Wendy Mosteller and Kellie Goins were also in attendance to audit the books for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. It was concluded that our Fashion Show was a successful even with COVID-19 restrictions. The donations from would-be attendees were very helpful. The generosity expressed by chapter members and our community helped ensure that Delta Sigma will begin the year operating in the black for scholarships and beginning teachers support. Those present also made some changes to the budget for the upcoming year. The proposed changes will be shared at the Planning meeting in July.



Thank you, Laurie, for your hard work as treasurer and the improvements you have made to our record keeping. Congratulations and best wishes in your new position.

If you or your committee need to contact Lori Haight prior to the executive board meeting in July, you can reach her at this email address: [lhaight@lincoln.k12.nc.us](mailto:lhaight@lincoln.k12.nc.us).

**Communication and Publicity** - *Elaine Boysworth*

The committee's general responsibility is to send out an email reminding members of upcoming meetings, obtain RSVPs for the benefit of the host committee, and note attendance at meetings, thereby assisting the chapter secretary and the author of press releases with accurate attendance documentation. Thanks go to Frankie Beam for graciously accepting this responsibility for the Communication and Publicity Committee for many years.

Delta Sigma members have received four newsletters each year during the last



biennium due to the hard work of Jennifer Luper. Many members may not know that each issue must contain certain elements and a specific number of articles to meet the criteria to attain state recognition. Delta Sigma has been recognized at state convention the last several years for newsletter and website excellence and also received the Communications Excellence Award in 2019. The 2020 state recognitions were recently announced via the North Carolina State Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma website. Delta Sigma received both the Newsletter Excellence and the Website Excellence awards.



Jenny Dellinger has served as Delta Sigma's webmaster. In addition to updating the website

periodically, Jenny ensures that the Delta Sigma website is linked to the DKG website and meets the criteria for current Society Website Compliance Assurance. Delta Sigma has been posting to the Region X Facebook page for several years, but Jenny has also created a Facebook page specifically for Delta Sigma. The Communication & Publicity Committee has informed members of the page and encouraged its use. The latest posting announces Delta Sigma's 2020 Most Promising Young Educator – Haley Hallman.

Our chapter brochure was created in 2019 for the purpose of educating prospective members about Delta Sigma activities. The brochure is posted on the Delta Sigma website. Anyone interested in assisting with the revision of the brochure in the upcoming year, please contact Elaine Boysworth.

Nine press releases were submitted to local newspapers over the last two years highlighting chapter meetings and the 2019 Fashion Show. In addition, the membership directory was revised and redistributed. Linda

Yoder served as



photographer for new directory photos and also photographed many chapter activities. The Communications Committee

thanks Kristen Reynolds, Kennan Eaddy, and other members who have shared photos for use in committee publications.

The Communications Committee is a very active committee seeking members who want to be involved with a variety of activities that keep members updated and publicize the work of the chapter.

### **Program and Fine Arts Committee - Kennan Eaddy & Jill Eaddy (Co-Chairs)**



The committee worked toward meeting the Delta Sigma goals through programs such as “Supporting Schools in Africa,” presented by Kristen Reynolds and “How Homelessness Affects Children,” presented by John Hall of Hessed House of Hope. We all learned a lot from Barbara Hallisey during her program on “Opioid Abuse” and from Charlie Bohlen and Sandra Kennedy during their presentation on “Foster Children’s programs in Lincoln County.” We gave to the community by volunteering at the Speak Up for Children’s Tour of Homes and the Asbury Resource Center. Beth Wise, a local caterer, taught us the art of decorating cupcakes which we donated to Amy’s House for Domestic Violence. We also stretched our brains during our hands-on session on Technology in the Classroom.

### **Executive Board Transition Meeting Summary - Kennan Eaddy**

On May 11th, we held a very successful digital Delta Sigma Executive Board transition meeting. During the meeting we scheduled our whole-group Summer Planning Meeting to be held on Thursday, July 23rd at 4:00.



As we move into the Summer and keep an eye on the progress of the COVID-19 virus, we should all be prepared to move our July Planning Meeting to a digital platform if necessary. In order to make this as easy as possible, we will have to make some

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changes. If a digital meeting is necessary, we will hold a brief Zoom meeting to discuss biennium goals and chapter communication. Keep your eyes open for an email containing a digital vote on business items we would typically cover during the Planning Meeting. Incoming committee chair will contact committee members to arrange a small face-to-face meeting before the July 23<sup>rd</sup> Summer Planning Meeting at 4:00 PM. Additionally, we will induct officers at a small gathering and send out a video recording to all members to see.



I want to thank everyone for their flexibility and continued commitment to our group as we all navigate new challenges. With a little ingenuity I'm certain we will still be able to conduct productive and enjoyable meetings!

Raffle ticket purchase information is available on the Foundation web site [2020 Charity Raffle](#). Tickets may also be obtained from any Foundation Board member. For more information, contact Sheila Groves, Board Chair, at [svgeta97@gmail.com](mailto:svgeta97@gmail.com). The drawing will be held on **October 17, 2020**.

## Summertime = Funtime

By: Tobey Worthington,  
NC DKG First Vice-President



As schools close their doors for summertime (even virtual ones!), NC DKG welcomes new chapter officers. If you are taking on a leadership role in your chapter, now is a good time to browse the NC DKG website as well as International's (remember to log in). Have some fun scanning the various ideas and resources that are available to you. This will help you Create some well-defined programs that will Empower and Engage your members. You will be Ready and Set to GROW during your biennium.

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## Mosaic Glass Inlay 12-String Guitar



The NC DKG Educational Foundation is proud to present the guitar artwork of North Carolina artist and educator Travis Driver. His unique visual art piece, a customized mosaic glass inlaid 12-stringed guitar, has been donated for a Foundation charity raffle. It is valued at more than \$500.

Raffle tickets are \$10 each or three for 25. Proceeds will be used to support Foundation

grants for N.C. educators.

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## Recognition, Awards, and Celebrations of Members

Please share joyous and celebratory news with our members, email your news to the editor, Jennifer Luper ([jenniferluper@att.net](mailto:jenniferluper@att.net))

### Celebrations:

**Laurie Sellers:** Laurie has accepted a new position as Principal of Lyle Creek Elementary School in Catawba for 2020-2021. Congratulations Laurie, we are proud of you!

**Judy Jones:** Her new title as of the end of October 2020 will be Grandma Judy. Congratulations to



Judy's son on the arrival of her FIRST grandchild. It's a BOY!

Show with granddaughter or Beekeeping with family, Delta Sigma members are wearing masks. The pictures of our mask and life with mask proves the spirit is indomitable.

### Delta Sigma Earns Two Awards:

Our chapter earned the 2020 Newsletter Excellence and the 2020 Website Excellence Awards by submitting at least four quality newsletters to the NC DKG Communications & Marketing Committee, updating the Delta Sigma chapter website at least quarterly, and completing steps to have the chapter website linked to DKG International.

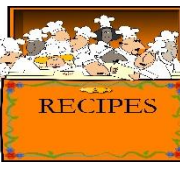


### Who are these Masked Sisters?

Safety tips about COVID-19: **3 W's** Wash hands, **Wear** masks and gloves and **Wait** and stay 6 feet apart from others. This situation with COVID-19 has been a life altering experience. During this time, individuals have endured great loss and have not been able to grieve in a "normal" manner. Our heart goes out to you. Whether just normal every day running errands, going to Horse



# B I N G O

Paid DKG Dues	Learned a new skill	Binge watched a new show	Downloaded DKG App	Forgot what day it was 
Read a book 	Watched Frozen 2 	Read DKG News, Journal, or International President Blog	Baked a new recipe 	Taught an online class 
Slept in late 	Added/Updated DKG member profile	<b>FREE SPACE</b>	Started a garden 	Visited any of the DKG international social platforms (Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram, LinkedIn)
Finished a puzzle 	Became a Founding Luminary	Cut my own hair 	Wore PJs all day	Read about some DKG history
Cleaned out a closet	Ordered food delivery 	Hosted or part of a virtual meeting	Reached out to a fellow DKG member	Tried Tik Tok

To play: You can either print a copy to physically mark your winning bingo (5 in a row anyway) OR save the pic on your phone and mark it in the photo editor. Winner be announced in the next newsletter.

**Please** return winning bingo card on or before July 15th by sending a picture to Rhonda Hager at [rhondahager@gmail.com](mailto:rhondahager@gmail.com) or 704 740 8278 OR mail your winning bingo card to Rhonda Hager at PO Box 73, Alexis, NC 28006.



**Mission Statement:**

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

**DKG International Vision:**

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

**NC DKG Vision:**

Voices of Influence Empowering NC Women Educators

**Delta Sigma LINC Submissions**

Send to newsletter editor submissions of member news, committee briefs and articles for inclusion by September 15, 2020

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**Delta Sigma Calendar**

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Summer Planning Meeting	July 23, 2020	4:00 p.m.	Boger City Methodist Church

**State and International Calendar**

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
International Convention,	July 7-10, 2020	Virtual Events
NC DKG Convention	April 23-25, 2021	Asheville, NC
International Convention	June 11-14, 2022	New Orleans, LA

**Important Web Links for Chapter Members**

International Website: <https://www.dkg.org>

NC DKG Website: [NC DKG News](#)

Delta Sigma Website: <http://deltasigmanc.weebly.com>



Delta Sigma Chapter Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/DeltaSigmaChapterDKG/>

(If you have a Facebook page please join our Delta Sigma Facebook page)

