

COLUMN



Seasons of Louisiana with Dianne Cage

Jesus said:

I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he die he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Come to me, all you who labor and are overburdened and I will give you rest.

Help us in the name of the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Keep **MARTHA JANE UPSHAW ANDERSON** and her family in your prayers....

Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you, happy birthday to beautiful **LINDA NELSON**....

"Shhh... It's a Surprise!" Come and celebrate Linda Nelson's 80th Birthday... Luncheon Friday, July 13th at 11:30 a.m. Bayou DeSiard Country Club."

Best friend **LYNN MOORE** gathered Linda's beautiful daughter, **BONALYN**, daughters-in-law, **LISA, PATTI & MAMIE**, granddaughters **MARY ELIZABETH & TAYLOR**, nieces and girlfriends to join in surprising Linda. As we were telling fun stories, and laughing, another surprise: in walks Linda's boys, **TREY, TODD & TIM**, with loving smiles and lovely bouquets of fabulous flowers. Leading the boys in was old friend **JAMES MOORE**. We know William "Bill" Bernard Nelson was smiling down from heaven. I think of Bill just about every day, as I am running around town, at every turn, of going from here to there, is the beautiful towering steeple on the top of First West Baptist Church. It always gives me a feeling of being safe and I always feel the love of Christ! There was a story, may not have it just right, as they were erecting this steeple, being as high as it was, there were some problems. Bill being a, Louisiana Tech old Bull Dog, and having a BS in Mechanical Engineering and being chairman of the First West building committee for the construction of the current worship center ... helped solved the problem. He went up to the top of that amazing tall steeple with the foreman of the construction crew! "My Anchor Holds."

A time to live a time to die ... my friend and Neville Class of 1961 classmate, **LYNDA WOOD HUGGINS**, passed away this last week. It is so strange: the day she died, I was organizing old recipes and ran across one of my favorites ... that Lynda shared with me. "Lynda Gay's Vinegar Cookies." Just the very best! All our love and blessing to her devoted husband Jim, high school sweetheart, and their three sons!

2 sticks butter at room temperature. Cream with 1 cup sugar and 1 teaspoon vinegar. Add 1 1/2 cups flour, 1 teaspoon soda, 1/4 teaspoon salt. Mix and add 1 teaspoon vanilla and 1 cup chopped pecans. Grease cookie sheet, drop by teaspoon full and bake 300 degrees, 20 minutes or until light brown... Yum, Yum! Talk about good with Homemade Blue Bell Vanilla Ice Cream with fresh peaches or figs!

As I was going through recipes, sorting and cleaning out old files, I ran across **ANN LANDERS**: "If you don't have class, there is no denying it!" Get your scissors out. Here it is: P.S. You asked who composed it, I did. **CLASS!** Class



TOP LEFT: Lynn and James Moore, Tim, Trey, Todd, Bonalyn and the beautiful birthday girl.

TOP RIGHT: Lynn Moore and Linda Nelson.



LEFT: Birthday celebration — Barbara Trasher, Linda Silmon and Marilyn Stern.

never runs scared. It is sure footed and confident and it can handle whatever comes along. **CLASS**, has a sense of humor. It knows that a good laugh is the best lubricant for oiling the machinery of human relations. **CLASS**, never makes excuses. It takes its lumps and learns from past mistakes. **CLASS**, knows that good manners are nothing more than a series of small sacrifices and minor inconveniences. **CLASS**, bespeaks an aristocracy unrelated to ancestors or money. Some extreme wealthy people have no class at all, while others who are struggling to make ends meet are loaded with it. **CLASS** is real You can't fake it. **CLASS** is comfortable in its own skin. It never puts on airs. **CLASS** never tries to build itself up by tearing others down. **CLASS** is always up and need not attempt to look better by making others look worse. **CLASS** can "walk with kings and keep the common touch." Everyone is comfortable with a person who has class because he is comfortable with himself. If you

have class, you've got it made. If you don't have class, no matter what else you have, it won't make up for it."

I have just finished reading "Thunderstruck" by Erick Larson. It tells the true story of two men — Hawley Crippen, a very unlikely murderer and Guglielmo Marconi, the creator of a supernatural means of communication — whose lives intersect during one of the greatest criminal chases of all times. It was a very good read... I have started "Wallis in Love" by Andrew Morton. A good read with lots of history but very sad. Happy reading, drink plenty of water, enjoy the fresh peaches, eggplant, tomatoes, peppers and such.. Enjoy this wonderful hot summer.. a day that the Lord made.

Dianne

Alumni Association gets new director, associate director

Melissa Kiper recently joined the University of Louisiana-Monroe Alumni Association as Alumni Director.

Jenny Pankey recently joined as Associate Alumni Director. Both women are graduates of ULM.

Kiper describes herself as a hometown girl from West Monroe. She received a Bachelor's in Marketing from Louisiana Tech University in Ruston in 2003 and her teaching certificate in 2011. In 2007 she earned her MBA from ULM fol-

lowed by her +30 in education in 2013. Her parents, Glynn Kiper and Nancy Dever, are also graduates of ULM. Kiper worked at ULM before as an academic advisor in the Student Success Center.

Pankey earned a bachelor's degree in general studies with a concentration in communications from ULM. She also has an MBA. As a student worker she served in then-President Lawson Swearingen's office. There she put her communications skills to work —

meeting and greeting guests and working with the 31 Ambassadors. As a graduate assistant Pankey worked for Dr. Terry Jones and the late Dr. H.P. Jones.

Kiper and Pankey have worked together in the Junior League of Monroe, Inc., where each served as president. They say the leadership skills they developed at the nonprofit will serve them well at the Alumni Association. Kiper and Pankey are already familiar with the campus and are devoted to ULM.

Kiper and Pankey are in offices at the new Laird Weems Alumni Center, which is home to Alumni Affairs and the ULM Foundation. They say they are looking forward to teaming up on Alumni and Foundation projects and promoting ULM as the Best on the Bayou.



JENNY PANKEY, left, is the new Associate Alumni Director, and **Melissa Kiper**, right, is the new Alumni Director. (Emerald McIntyre/ ULM Photo Services)

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