

Delta Chi Sorority #1411 would like to name Julia Strnad as our Diana Award Recipient for 2010-2011. We are submitting her for nomination as the ESA Diana Award Recipient of the State of Kansas. Julia is a young wife, homemaker and mother in our community, and she has established herself as being a very caring person who looks primarily at what she can do to help others. She has accomplished so much.

Julia and her husband Troy operate the Strnad Land and Cattle, a farming operation of spring and winter crops and livestock. She operates the combine during harvest time, and also keeps electronic books and filings for the company, fixes meals and is an all around farm hand. Her husband was badly injured in a farm related accident in September 2010, and Julia continued to operate and manage the farming operation during his recovery. She is the Chief Financial Officer of Ag Energy Solutions LLC, a business which is working to bring alternate energy to the local area. She and Troy have two children, Sammie, a 10 year old daughter and Trey, their 8 year old son.

She and her family are very active in the community. Julia volunteers as Secretary of the Caldwell High School Alumni Association where she has updated the listing of every high school graduate from Caldwell, and sends over 1200 letters out each summer announcing the Alumni Plans for the Homecoming Activities in October. This is an awesome job, and she also takes care of many other responsibilities for the Alumni Association. Recently she suggested a benefit to raise money for getting new restroom/concession facility for the local football field, and of course was given the responsibility to come up with an idea. She has scheduled an Alumni Basketball game for February of this year, and has secured commitments for alumni referees, players and teams. Whatever she sets out to do she fulfills that obligation by involving others and then gives everyone credit for its success, even though she has done most of the work.

Her interest in the school does not end there. She recently registered the local schools for a coupon program which raises money for the school by promoting saving the bar codes and labels from grocery items. She even makes her laptop computer available for others to sign up for incentives from Campbell Soups and thus has collected many needed items for the school system. She is a Room Mother at the Caldwell Elementary School. She volunteers on a Research Committee to find a workable solution between two local schools for consolidation while saving the identity of both communities.

Her children are involved in 4-H and she is the Community Leader, as well as coordinating the clubs' sewing projects. She has served as President of the Sumner County Extension Executive Council for four years. Because of her concern for health issues, four years ago Julia started the Walk across Kansas for her community. She has formed new groups each year and has had as many as 6 groups of six participants each walking and keeping track of how far they walk, and how many whole grain products they eat each week. She then tabulates the distances etc. every week and registers them with the Extension Service. She announces which teams are ahead every week. Everyone has fun doing this and it makes everyone aware of exercising and the how necessary it is to maintain a healthy body.

Julia was stunned to see the devastation of the earthquakes that caused so much suffering by the people in Haiti in early 2010. She searched out ways her small country church could help the people. She started out by personally volunteering at a Numana Inc. packaging event in Eldorado, and afterwards, she urged participation from other people in the community. Food packages were bagged containing rice, soy protein, freeze dried vegetable and vitamins and shipped to Haiti to be distributed thru the Salvation Army. These packets when reconstituted with water would feed one meal to a family of six people.

The Million Meal Packaging Event in Wichita was attended by several members of the community two weeks later. Julia then took on the task of promoting an event in the town of Caldwell with its population of about 1200 people. A goal of 285,000 meals to feed the Haitian people was set, and she began the arduous task of notifying people and organizations and asking for their help. She and her team of volunteers raised about \$45,000 to help defray the cost of the food. There was a lot going on in the community the day that was designated for the packaging and only 350 people showed up. Some worked all day and others worked whatever time they had to give. At the end of the 10 hour time period, they had packaged 220,054 meals. Even though the goal was not met, the Numana leaders said they had never seen so few, work so hard, and do so much good, under her guidance and leadership. Pre-school children and people in their 80's participated in the event, some had to take a break but returned later to continue packaging. Through Julia's dedication, her enthusiasm, her encouragement and her organizational skills the project was successful and hopefully will provide the Haitian people with nourishment as they fight the battles ahead. She is still involved and promotes involvement when other Numana packaging events are held in the area. She is involved with all dimensions of mission work.

She is very active in her church, where she serves as mission coordinator and as the Leader of the Laity. Julia was in charge of the 125th Anniversary Celebration of the church and has headed the Annual Turkey Supper Project twice. At this supper, the Corbin United Methodist Women's organization, with help from others in the community, serves a full turkey dinner for up to 700 people in one evening. This project supports both local and world mission projects.

Julia was the coordinator of the area wide Bible School for kids held recently. She is a mainstay for Joy Express, a once a week bible-school type after school program for the elementary students. She is active in Bible Study Groups and the NOW Committee who is in charge of the programs of the church.

Julia and her sister Bonnie established Silver Strand, a company that makes and sells their own hand crafted jewelry. She is in charge and coordinates a large craft show that promotes hand crafted items made by local crafters every December and this has grown to include other businesses from outside the state. Even though she is a very involved with the lives of her family she still takes time out to do gardening.

Her family started the annual Corn Party for the surrounding community and every year host a big get together where they furnish corn on the cob, hamburgers

and hot dogs and ask those attending to bring a covered dish to complete the meal. This event is looked forward to, and many people who are not acquainted, are able to meet and get to know others in the community.

Julia is highly respected in her community and her ability to organize and complete a project has made her a valuable asset to her community and her family.

Delta Chi is pleased and proud to submit Julia Strnad for this high honor.