

de Stolfe

Journal ●●●●●●●●

2021 Review | 10.7



Contents

2021 Review | 10.7

*Covers a summary of all activities in 2021.
The page numbers correspond to the PDF pages.*

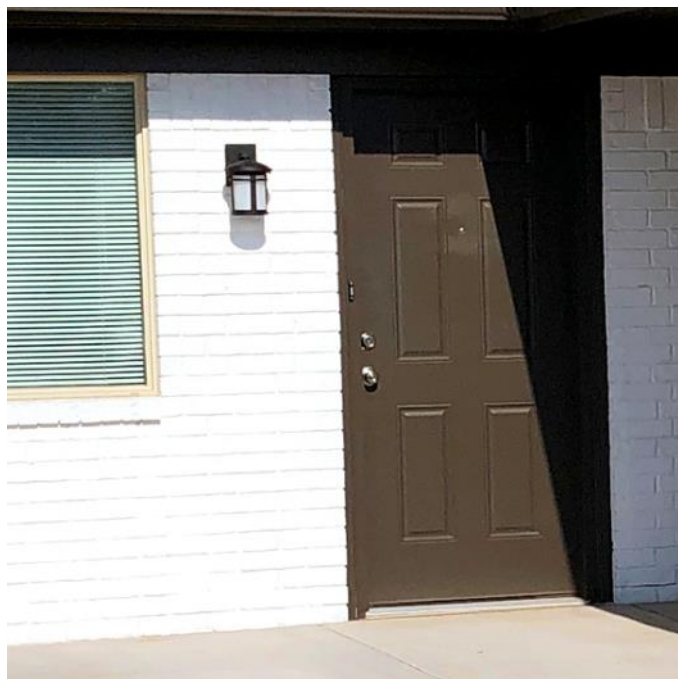
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We live in the 21st century! Anywhere you see a web link like this, click it to go automatically to the webpage that it references! (Try it now!)

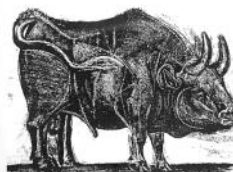
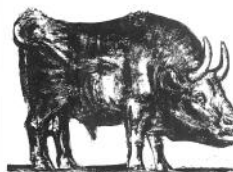
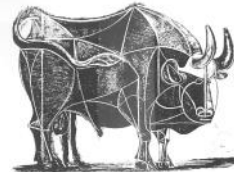
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On The Cover



The biggest event for me in 2021 was moving in June from Snyder—where I had lived since early November 2018—back to Lubbock, where I lived before moving to Snyder.



When I was at a motel for Thanksgiving, the “stock art” on the walls had this print. It wasn’t labeled, but the drawing look very much like the style of Picasso!

Comments by RG

Many Activities in 2021!

This journal is a year in review for 2021. No doubt that while 2020 was a paralyzing year, 2021 was only marginally better in some ways while worse in other ways. That is where we are in 2022. So let's review what happened in 2021.

January started much the same as December 2020, but without the holidays. However, only a week into the year, the attacks on the Capitol building fully revealed what is the most bad about human nature! It had nothing to do with political parties, but it had everything to do with power and domination on all sides. For me it was because of those acts that I forever distrust the purposes and intents of social media and aggressively downsized my use of my social media accounts. It was shortly after that when I put out a special issue of breakeven games. I was living in Snyder, and we continued to wait for the probate to finish with Mom's estate. (That we first started in May of 2020!) However, the final steps finished in late January into February.

Continuing on to **February**, we got the house listed for sale by mid February. Since the probate took so long, our realtor was able to get most of the paperwork done over the previous six plus months. At about the same time as the listing, the mid part of the country all the way down to the Gulf and nearby states went paralyzed with

the "polar vortex" (among other names people called it), which was over a week of single digits to low 20s temperatures that never got above freezing. For me, I was fine and stayed warm, but I did not date go anywhere except once or twice to check for mail. We got a quite a few offers, and we chose one. The closing ended up taking a little over three weeks, which takes us into March.

March of 2021 marked 35 years since my very first journal in March 1986. Once the sale of the house was complete, Dad came down to Snyder, and we immediately left towards Florida. After three days, we got to Jacksonville and spent about a week there. We had some final things to gather from the house as well as to pick up the things that had been in storage for over nine months. We tied up some loose ends and also took a couple of side trips. We drove to central Florida for Dad to go to Bok Tower, and the next day we drove down to St. Augustine where I wanted to go. We picked up a U-Haul and loaded of the stuff from storage. We left the day after that in the early morning and headed back to Texas. We went to my apartment first, unloaded a few things, and stayed the night. The next day, we drove up to Lubbock and moved the stuff from the



Producer, RG de Stolfe

trailer to a storage unit, returned the trailer, and had dinner. Dad stayed the night at a hotel in Lubbock, and I went back home to Snyder. Dad left in the very early morning, and I woke up in the late morning to a call saying that Dad was in an accident south of Pueblo. Ultimately, I had to turn right around after just getting back from Florida to go to Colorado. I ended up staying in Colorado for about five weeks.

Going into **April**, Dad was at the hospital for about six days. I stayed at a motel for that time and would visit different places in Pueblo and came back to check on Dad a couple times a day. On Easter (April 4), we went back to Dad's house in Colorado Springs. We took things slow for the first few weeks until he could function a little more normally. By the end of April, I took an extended weekend trip to Leadville. I stayed at a motel there and did

Comments by RG

some things for the museum where I had worked those three summers for the museum. Also while there, I visited several places I've gone to before and some new places. A few days after I got back from Leadville, I would leave to go back home once Dad was in good enough shape to be by himself. I left to go back home a few days into May.

In **May**, once I was back home, actually back home, I was able to redirect my thinking about what I was going to do next. With the probate settled, the house sold, the trip to Florida done, and the unexpected trip to Colorado all finished, I needed to decide about what options I had. Knowing that probate would eventually be finished, my intent was to use some of that money to build a house. I had spent months deciding what plan to build and what features I wanted. Unfortunately, as the weeks and months kept dragging by, the higher the costs went to build a house because of the crazy booming housing market and because of the cost of materials! I was already at the break point of my budget to consider the building option, the compounded effect completely busted my ability to go the building route. That also pretty much canceled other ideas of moving to somewhere else in Texas, where I could consider buying a house. The only idea that made any sense at all was to move back to Lubbock and find a rental. However apartments were out, and I wanted a house to rent. I

looked at a bunch of options, including apartments, to get an idea of what was available. I almost settled with one or two options to go with until I came back to a certain option that I had though was completely out of my price range I wanted to stay within. However, after some weighing of options and looking at the property, I gave the landlord an offer he could not refuse! He ultimately agreed and I had a new place to live.

Going into **June**, the new place is a duplex in the northwest part of Lubbock. Now, when I say new, it is both old and new! The current owners had bought the duplex in March and completely remodeled the inside and outside of the building. I saw the photos in the listing back in May. Nearly every square inch of the place was either new or redone, including all new appliances, bathrooms, HVAC, water heater, and lighting. Everything was repainted, including the brick around the fireplace and the outside of the building. The building has a new roof, and three giant trees were removed along with installing a new septic system (root damage). So in many ways, I did sort of get a new house; I just don't actually own it. By mid June, I packed up in Snyder and had a moving company do my moving. I was not about to do it myself... again! I pretty much used all of my existing furniture, along with what I kept from Mom's house. I did buy a few specific things I wanted, specifically a new bed, a

new dining table, and a desk for my computer. Of course, I bought a whole bunch of other misc things I needed for a three bedroom, two bath, one car garage house with a back yard! Finally after many years, I had all of my stuff together in one place.

For the most part, **July** was quiet, and I just spent my time getting settled in my new place, along with keeping cool from summer heat! By the very end of July, I decided that I wanted to get Mom's sewing machine serviced and cleaned (probably was never done before). The closest place for official Singer repair was in Fort Worth, even though there was places locally I could go to. With that, I decided to make a trip out of it since Fort Worth was five hours away from Lubbock. I did do one little side trip just before going to Fort Worth. A friend needed to go to Albuquerque. I went along with him for the ride. We took the route from Lubbock to Clovis, Fort Sumner, Santa Rosa, and I-40. Just before Fort Sumner, we stopped in a tiny town called Taiban where there was this well photographed church that I said I would stop at the next time I was ever hat way again. We stopped there, got to Albuquerque (where he took care of his business), had dinner, and went our way back. By that point, it was dark, and we stayed the night in Fort Sumner. The next day we got back to Lubbock, and he continued on. Just two hours later, I was also back on my way to Fort Worth, getting there just in time to drop off the sewing

Comments by RG

machine. I went and got dinner and drove to Waco where I stayed the night. The next day, I experienced everything Magnolia along with going to the park by the old bridge. By late afternoon, I drove to De Leon where my friend lives and stayed the night. The next day, I spent some time touring the northern Hill Country area after eating some BBQ in Stephenville by going to Glen Rose, Texas Hill Country Furniture, and Thurber before going back home.

Now in **August**, the sewing machine place said that the machine was already done by the Monday after I dropped it off! (which was a Friday) I knew that I could not yet turn right around to go back. I waited about a week and left the next Monday to go back. I stayed the night in Fort Worth after getting there after dark. The next day, I had mapped out the things I wanted to do. The Fort Worth Stockyards was going to have to wait for a separate trip. Instead, I went to Buc-ee's, the sewing machine place, and went to Zoë's and La Madeleine again. I took I-20 to the road where the furniture place was back to De Leon to stay the night. The next day, I drove up to Thurber and toured the museum there that was closed when I was by there before. I had lunch at the restaurant next door to it. I went a little different route back. I took I-20 to Eastland stopping about halfway at a newish rest stop where a regional history exhibit was. I took Highway 6 to near Post to go home and made several

stops along the way including a garden store in Eastland, the courthouse square in Albany, the Matthews Switch, various historical markers, and a place east of Post where two windmills were, which was already off Highway 6. I continued to Post then to Lubbock. The rest of August was quiet and regular.

In **September**, I did not really go anywhere until the very end of the month, but I was involved with one major thing. I started as an intern with the Texas Master Gardeners program in Lubbock County! This was a nearly two month series of weekly classes to become a certified Master Gardener in Texas. Until now, I have kept this quiet until I felt like it was a good time to mention it! Our first field trip was on the last day of September to the Amarillo Botanical Gardens. While September is near the end of the growing season, it was a beautiful place full of various plants and flowers.

Starting in late September and early **October**, there were about two weeks where I did many things really close to each other. On September 28, I spent the evening going to the Corn Maze north of Lubbock. September 30 was the trip to the Amarillo Botanical Gardens. The next day on October 1, I attended a fundraiser and ultimately won a brisket from a raffle! The next day after that, I drove up to near Floydada to go to the Assiter Pumpkin Farm to get some pumpkins grown right there in the

field. A week after that on October 9, I attended a Spur Symposium that Saturday at the same museum in Thurber I visited a couple of months earlier in August. I drove up Friday and spent the night at a motel in Ranger. We did a few other in town field trips with the Master Gardeners program before finishing up near the end of October.

November was another travel month. We had a makeup class for the Master Gardeners on November 9. The next day, I was on my way to Amarillo to attend the WRCA finals, a five day/night series of events. While in Amarillo, I also visited a locomotive called Madam Queen, went to the Cadillac Ranch and nearby Cadillac RV Park, a similar place called Combine City, the Amarillo Zoo, and The Big Texan restaurant. For Thanksgiving, I went back to visit my friends in De Leon (as I had for many years before) and spent several days there, but staying at a motel in Stephenville. While there, I stopped at the BBQ place again, went to Glen Rose again, and stopped briefly in Dublin. I headed back that Sunday.

For **December**, I did not really go anywhere or see any attractions, but rather focused on getting ready for Christmas and spending Christmas at home. I set up my fake tree, put lights on the house, and decorated parts of the inside. I made a nice Christmas dinner and spent NYE eating the same and made a good meal for NYD.

Word For Life

Winter 2021

Acts 20:35

35 [Paul stated] ...remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Romans 12:17-21

- 17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.
- 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.
- 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord.
- 20 Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head."
- 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Early Spring 2021

2 Corinthians 13:11

11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Esther 2:11

11 And every day Mordecai paced in front of the court of the women's quarters, to learn of Esther's welfare and what was happening to her.

Late Springs 2021

John 3:16

16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Proverbs 3:5

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;

Proverbs 24:18

18 Lest the Lord see it, and it displease Him, and He turn away His wrath from him.

Revelation 3:20

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

Nahum 1:7

7 The Lord is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knows those who trust in Him.



- John 3:16 on the drink cups
- Proverbs 3:5 on the milkshake cups
- Proverbs 24:18 on the fries tray
- Revelation 3:20 on the burger wrappers
- Nahum 1:7 on the Double-Double wrapper

Summer 2021

Proverbs 3:5-6 (AMP)

5 Trust in and rely confidently on the Lord with all your heart and do not rely on your own insight or understanding.

6 In all your ways know and acknowledge and recognize Him, and He will make your paths straight and smooth [removing obstacles that block your way].

Deuteronomy 30:19

19 I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;

John 16:33

33 These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer [be encouraged], I have overcome the world.

1 John 4:18

18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.

Word For Life

Early Fall 2021

Micah 5:2-5

The Coming Messiah

- 2 “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
Though you are little among
the thousands of Judah, yet out
of you shall come forth to Me
The One to be Ruler in Israel,
Whose goings forth are from of
old, from everlasting.”
- 3 Therefore He shall give them up,
until the time that she who is in
labor has given birth;
Then the remnant of His
brethren shall return to the
children of Israel.
- 4 And He shall stand and feed His
flock
In the strength of the Lord,
In the majesty of the name of
the Lord His God;
And they shall abide,
For now He shall be great
To the ends of the earth;
- 5 And this One shall be peace. [...]

Christmas 2021

Christmas is only about God
sending to the people a Savior
and a Lord; His name is Jesus!

Luke 2:11-12

- 11 For there is born to you this
day in the city of David a
Savior, who is Christ the
Lord.
- 12 And this will be the sign to
you: You will find a Babe
wrapped in swaddling cloths,
lying in a manger.”

John 3:17

- 17 For God did not send His Son
into the world to condemn the
world, but that the world
through Him might be saved.

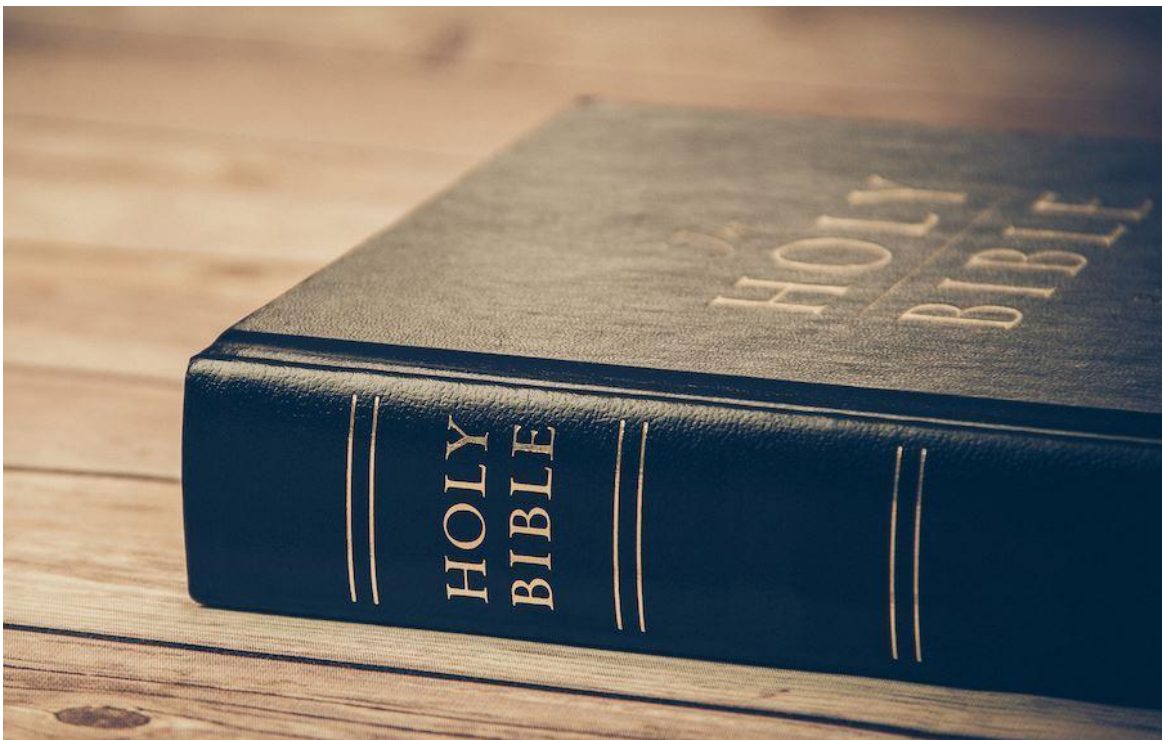
Late Fall 2021

Matthew 12:37 (NKJV)

37 ...by your words you will be
justified, and by your words
you will be condemned.

Proverbs 18:21 (AMP)

21 Death and life are in the power
of the tongue, and those who
love it and indulge it will eat
its fruit and bear the
consequences of their words.



January 2021

January Winter Storms



December 31, 2020



January 1, 2021

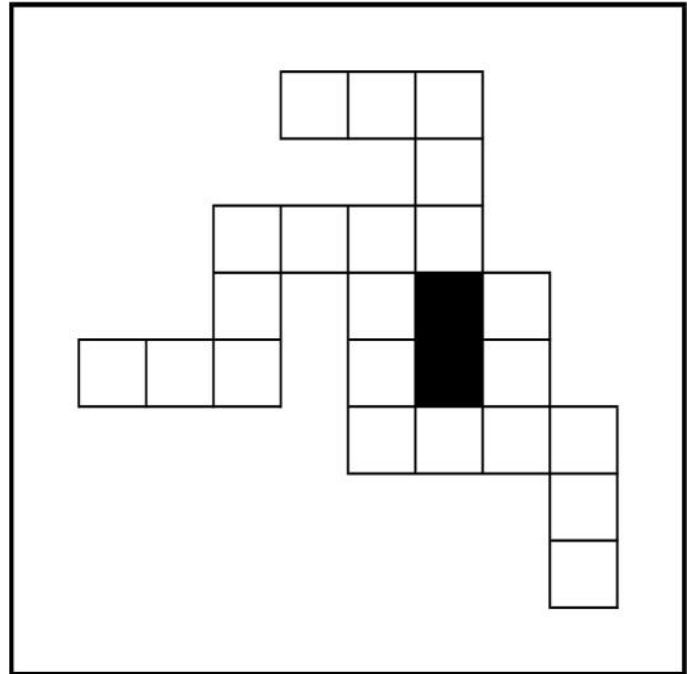
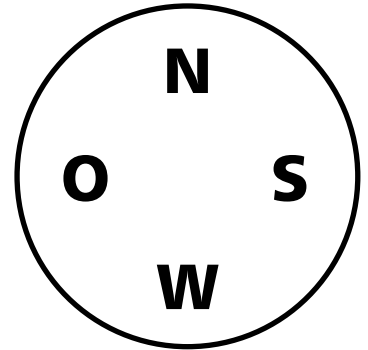


January 10, 2021

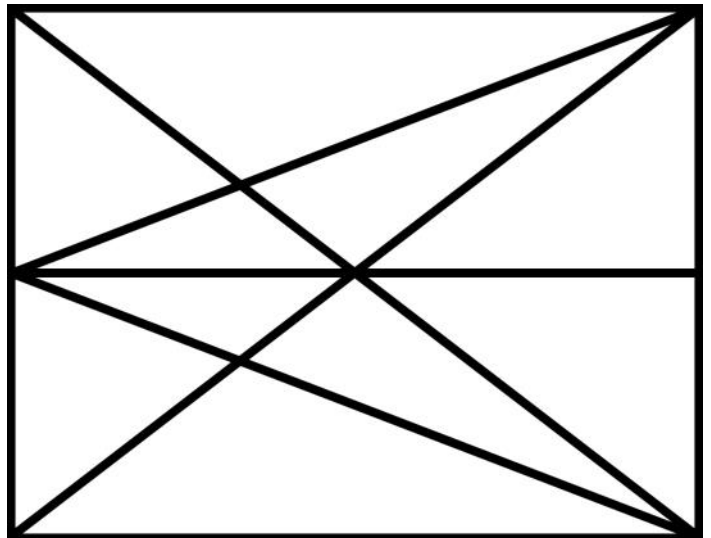
Puzzles, Games, and More Special

Word Wheel

*Answers on
the last page.*



How Many Triangles?



February 2021

Polar Vortex 2021



If you were alive in the very middle of February and lived somewhere in the northern or central parts of the country, then you were likely affected by the so called “polar vortex” that dipped WAY down (even into Mexico) in what could be considered a “cold of the century” experience! For places in the northern United States or in Canada, the cold was simply a long cold spell. However, for places well south of there, the temperatures proved traumatizing, paralyzing, and destructive! The reason was simply because it just doesn’t normally get that cold in most of these places! People from the northern parts of the country or Canada were extremely cruel with their comments on social media about how “cold” it got!

No doubt that you probably heard about the horror stories of things that happened here in Texas, and how the media likely was slanderous in how they reported it. There were complete electrical outages, even for days. There were “rolling blackouts” to avoid complete electrical shutdowns. There were people who literally froze to death. There were frozen houses that later caused water damage. These things unfortunately did happen by no fault of the residents. However, these things were NOT 100% across the state! No doubt that there will be significant changes and improvements to prevent this from ever repeating.

February 10-19, 2021

March 2021

*Jacksonville, Florida (downtown)
and St. Johns River*



Bok Tower



Lighthouse in St. Augustine



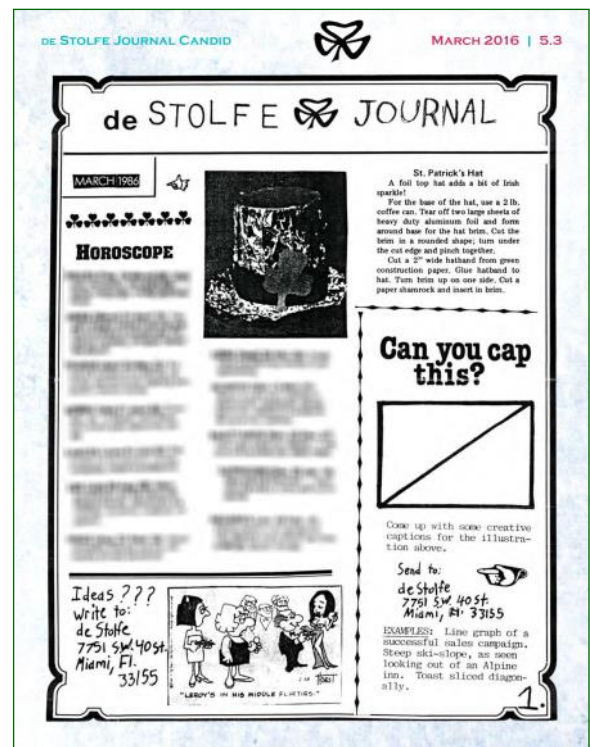
Mom's house, and the trailer bringing stuff back.



35 Years of the de Stolfe Journal! 1986 – 2021

My first issue of the de Stolfe Journal was in March 1986. The inset image of the cover to the right shows what the first issue looked like. It was literally a pasted up newsletter using the various means to do such a thing with the finished pages photocopied and stapled together. The first issue was four pages and took several days to put together. Needless to say, it was very random! As you can see, I lived in Miami, Florida. I was in Miami because I was born there! I lived there from birth to early 1989 when I moved to Jacksonville, Florida. For several years later, I didn't make any issues, but picked them back up in late 1992. By then, I was doing them entirely digitally on a computer. From there I continued until early 1998. Basically, I never did them again until I revived the Journal in 2012 as the *Candid* version, but dropping the *Candid* by 2019.

All issues—including the 1980s & 1990s issues—are available on the website: www.destolfe.com.



April 2021

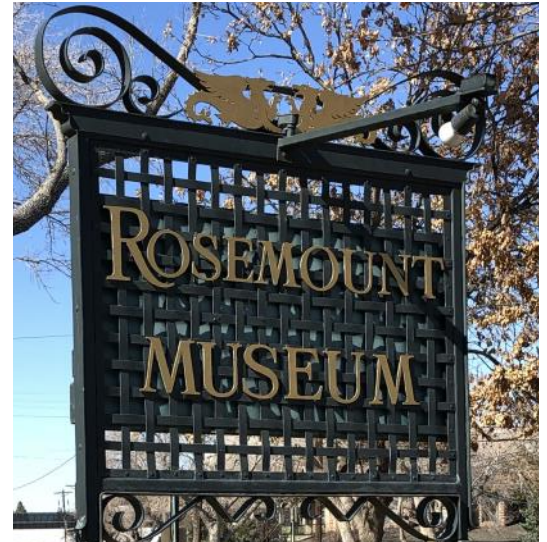


Part of the damage to Dad's car.



Historic Arkansas Riverwalk, Downtown Pueblo

Rosemount Museum, an old house made into a museum.



Old schoolhouse in old Malta near Leadville.

One of many squirrels in Dad's back yard!



May 2021

In April 2020, I saw many wildflowers near my apartment in Snyder. However this year, I would not see them until I got back in early May from the unexpected trip to Colorado. Fortunately, I got to see the very tail end of the wildflowers in bloom!



Flowering bushes around Dad's house.



Just west of Lamar a few miles was this interesting wind vane I saw last year.



While I was gone, spring arrived in Lubbock. I was amazed by how prolific the rose bushes were all over town! The freeze in February must have done something to cause them to bloom so heavily! They stayed blooming for weeks!

June 2021



Snyder, Texas



Lubbock, Texas

July 2021



Special shark issue in mid July.



The old Presbyterian church in Taiban, New Mexico



Old gas station in Glen Rose.



While waiting to eat at Magnolia Table, I zipped over to the original Magnolia shop. Later, I went over to the Magnolia Silos.



Large rocking chair at Texas Hill Country Furniture.



August 2021



Buc-ee's in Fort Worth.



Shackleford County courthouse in Albany.



Smokestack in old Thurber.



Matthews Switch west of Albany.

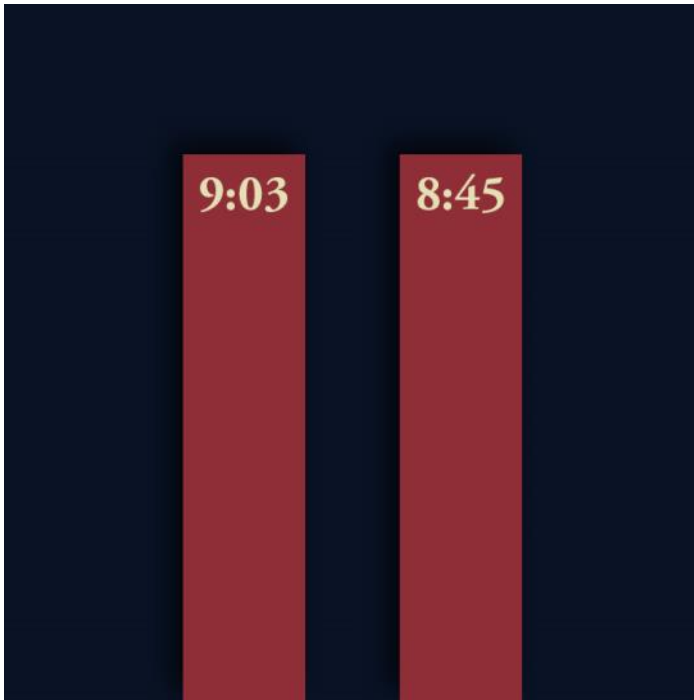


Inside the Eastland County Rest Stop.

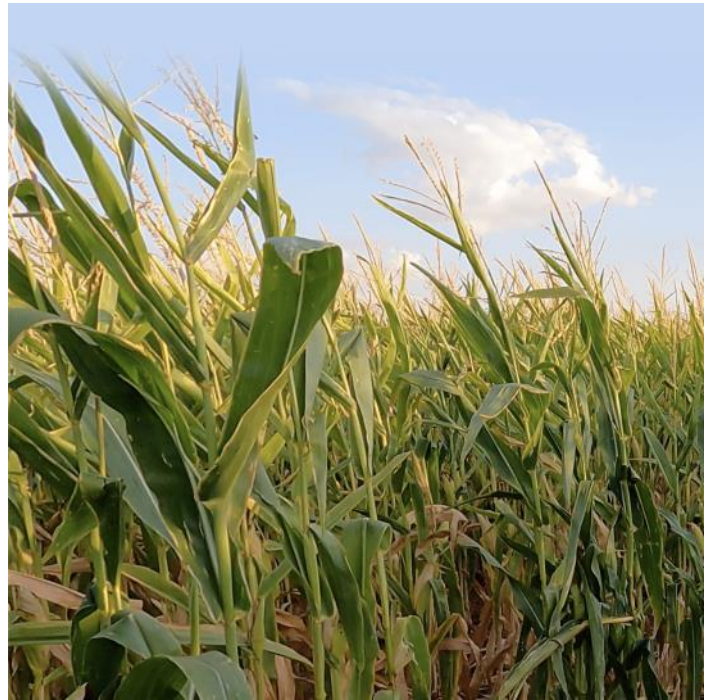


Double windmills found on the way to Post.

September 2021



Twenty years since 9-11-2001.



Visited the At'l Do Corn Maze on 9.28.21.



The 2021 Texas Master Gardener interns took a field trip to the Amarillo Botanical Gardens on 9.30.21.

October 2021



Attended a fundraiser on 10.1.21.



Went to the Assiter Punkin Farm on 10.2.21.



Saw some magnificent milo on 10.6.21.



I attended the Spur Symposium in Thurber at the WK Gordon Center for Industrial History of Texas on 10.9.21

November 2021



Went to Amarillo in mid Nov and did many things!



December 2021



My booth at a craft sale.

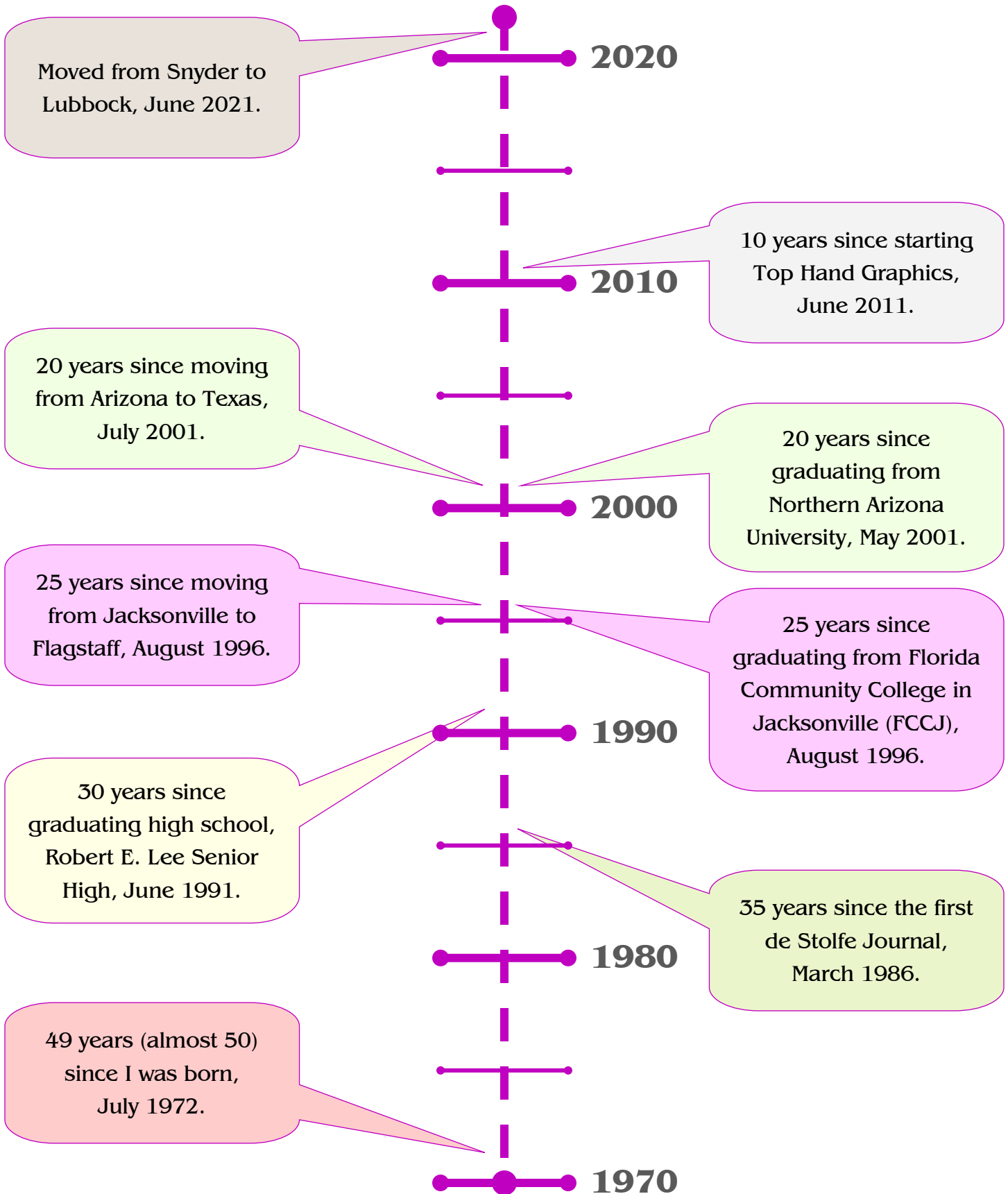


Christmas candlelight service.



Anniversaries

2021 marked some major milestone anniversaries.



Garden Roundup 2021



January 10, 2021



February 1, 2021



February 16, 2021



March 15, 2021



New chair!

May 7, 2021

Garden Roundup 2021



May 8, 2021—Complete reset of garden



May 10, 2021



May 21, 2021



June 19, 2021



June 8, 2021

Garden Roundup 2021



June 20, 2021



July 12, 2021

August 2, 2021



August 17, 2021

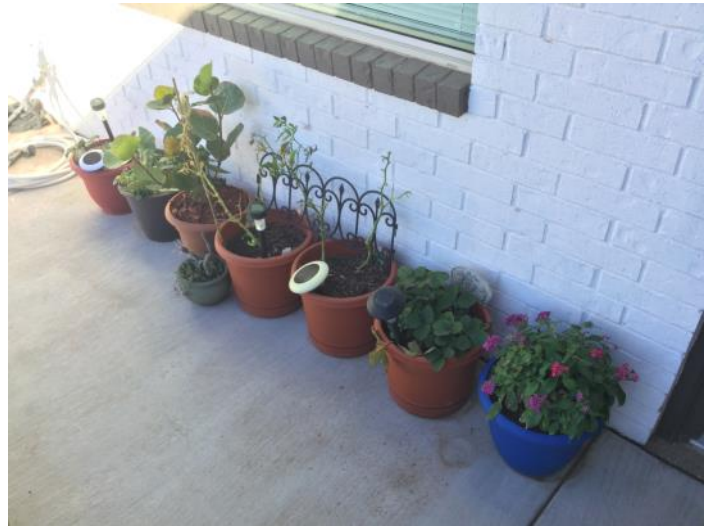


Garden Roundup 2021

September 19, 2021



October 29, 2021



December 12, 2021



January 1, 2022



Garden Roundup 2021

Harvests

I grew several plants for produce or other food type things. As plants, I bought five varieties of peppers (poblano, snackabelle red, better bell, sweet banana, gypsy sweet), strawberries (Quinault), and cucumbers (Summer Top). From seeds, I grew sweet peas and sunflowers. I also has some Italian parsley, sweet mint, and a couple of varieties of sorrel.



First harvest: peppers



Strawberries and peppers



Peppers and strawberries



Strawberries and peppers



Sunflowers

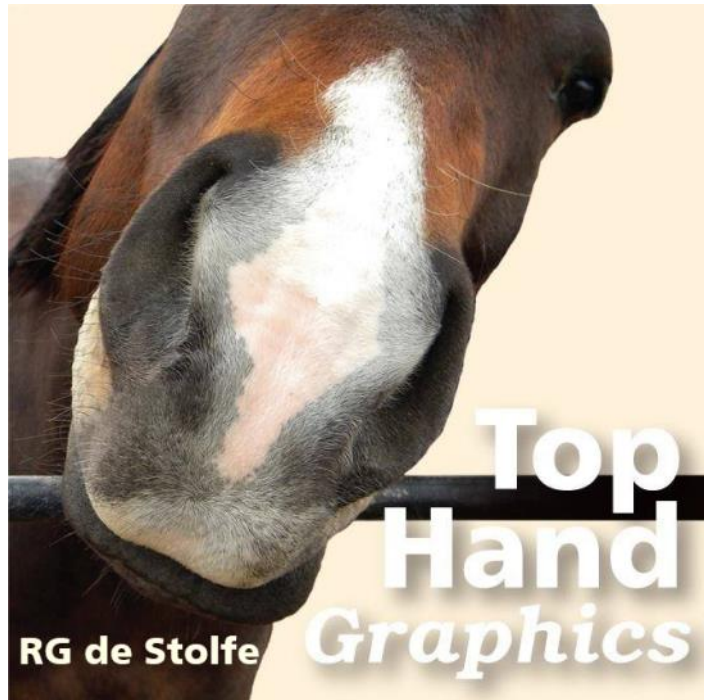
THG is 10 Years Old!

Top Hand Graphics is 10 Years Old!

Ten years ago on June 1 of 2011, I started a business, *Top Hand Graphics*. It was right on the heels of a major job loss. In practicality, it has been a freelance business for supplemental income and never was meant to function as my primary business.

The horse in the logo was from a photo I took in the 2010 that was taken at just the right timing while he was turning his head to go in between the bars of the pen, probably expecting that I had food for him. (Horses are always hungry!)

The name of the business comes from a simple, long standing tradition in the ranching world. A “top hand” of a ranch is in many ways the most skilled cowboy on the ranch and often has more perks than the other cowboys. So the idea is that with my experience and skills in graphic design, I provide top quality of graphic design services.

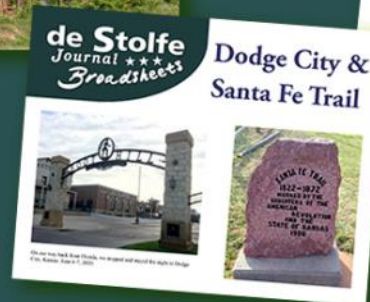
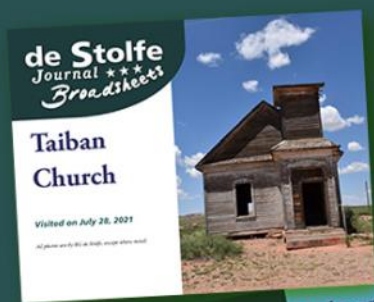


www.TopHandGraphics.com

Introducing

de Stolfe Journal Broadsheets

de Stolfe Journal *** Broadsheets



They are finally here!!

Many of you have indicated that the regular journals have gotten far too long. Well, I certainly agree that they were too long, especially since they took forever for me to finish a single issue! So, I fixed this little problem by creating a totally new concept. These are the NEW de Stolfe Journal Broadsheets.

My broadsheets are single topic issues in a horizontal format that are generally restricted to about ten pages (plus or minus). They are meant to give you more information about a topic separate from the summaries in the regular journals. The regular issues will now be limited to about 25 pages to be more manageable. Currently, 17 issues are up, and more will be added on an irregular basis.



Miriam M. de Stolfe with white German shepherd, Rimmad

Memorial



Pike's Peak



The grave is at

*Pikes Peak National Cemetery
10545 Drennan Road
Colorado Springs, Colorado*

*The grave is in section 6 right
next to the road.*

