



Epsilon Sigma Alpha
INTERNATIONAL®

Minnesota ESsAy

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August 2010

Terri Olson – President

It astounds me how quickly summer seems to fly by and yet winter feels as if it drags on forever! I know it was just yesterday when I saw that first blade of green grass and my first dandelion – well, it seems that way to me! Writing the first article for the ESsAy makes me think fall is right around the corner and then comes that nasty, nasty four-letter word – SNOW! Ick!

International Convention was a resounding success! There were so many positive comments heard throughout the week that we should all give each other a warm pat on the back for a job well done! If you look on Facebook, ESA members across the US are still talking about how much fun the mixer party was, how much money we raised for St. Jude, how much food and money we donated for the Virtual Food Drive, how many jump drives we gathered, how great it was to have St. Jude families visit, and generally, how much fun it was to gain new friendships and to renew long-time friendships. It was marvelous!! You can't help but feel proud to belong to ESA.

I sure have that ESA enthusiasm down in my heart and I know you do, too. Energize! I have been thinking and dreaming about how to re-energize MN ESA and for the past two years, I have listened to your opinions, ideas, and thoughts. I often look at the “Keeps” and “Don't Keeps” that Rose Pasillas had you complete for me at State Convention. Now for the implementation: I told you that I hoped we could try many different opportunities this year to try to grow our membership and share that ESA enthusiasm. Not everyone likes to go to a meeting, not everyone can meet on a weekend, not everyone can afford some of our activities, and not everyone likes change. So, I asked those folks who gathered together in May and again in June to come up with an opportunity every single month from August through May where we could spread the excitement and knowledge about ESA. I asked if we could come up with opportunities for education, service, and association. There are so many activities planned, I am amazed at how much fun we are going to have spreading the ESA word!

But, please do NOT feel you must come to every single planned activity.

NOTE: There is only one MAJOR rule this year: Come when you can, have fun when you come, and bring someone to share in the excitement of ESA.

Our first opportunity to get together for fun is a picnic at Como Park on Tuesday, August 10th. If you are unable to come to the picnic, maybe you will be able to attend the next get-together, which actually is our first Membership meeting on August 21st at the Ridgedale Library. This first meeting of the year is a chance for you to find out all of the fun things that have been planned for our 2010-2011 ESA year, a chance for you to pick up your MN ESA State Rosters for 2010-2011, and a chance for you to renew ESA friendships that you may have missed throughout the summer months. Yup! We'll be trying new things, we'll be singing some songs, we'll be learning something new, we'll be working together to do good things for good people – it's time to Energize! I triple-dog dare you to have fun this year!

Diane Vanusek – Past President- MNLove/Disaster Chair

Where is time going! Minnesota's production of IC Convention is history (except for the bills), the new membership year is starting, I am another year older and the first deadline of the Essay is upon me.

The Minnesota Love Fund and IC Disaster Fund gives limited help to our own members who find themselves in difficult circumstances. It is one way we can answer the call to help our own sisters and brothers of the heart. I would invite all the chapters to do an activity this year within their chapter or social group to help raise resources for these funds. Make it fun and interesting so the attendees want to do it again!

Some small fun things to do will be held at the regular state meetings so bring some change and play along with all the proceeds going to these funds.

Karla Kay Nicklaus - ESA Foundation

A great variety of Minnesota made items were contributed to the Minnesota State Basket for the IC Foundation Fund Raiser. Thanks...thanks...to all who donated items for the basket and also to the silent auction.

This year, Minnesota granted two \$1500 scholarships and the following were our winners:

- Brenda Barrea graduated from Southwest Senior High, Minneapolis. Brenda plans to attend Stanford University and her goal is to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering.
- Amanda Mattick graduated from Austin High School. Amanda's plans are to attend the University of Minnesota and her goal is to double major in Sports Management and Journalism.
- The Sandy Weisenberger Endowment Scholarship (\$750) was awarded to Gina Weiss. Gina plans to attend Concordia College in Moorhead and major in pre-medicine to become a physician.
- The Parr Family Memorial Endowment was awarded to Kristine Malotte.

Scholarship applications for the 2011-2012 school year will be available after October 1st.

Thanks to all who continue to work at Medtox which makes it possible to continue to give scholarships.

Sharon Desarmeaux – Chaplain

Happy New ESA Year to all of you. The following is from the book *To Bless the Space Between Us* by John O'Donohue. The Executive Director from the Alzheimer's Association read this to us at their Volunteer Luncheon and I want to share this with all of you. She dedicated this to all Volunteers. It is called *For Work*.

May the light of your soul bless your work with love and warmth of heart.

May you see in what you do the beauty of your soul.

May the sacredness of your work bring light and renewal to those who work with you. And to those who see and receive your work.

May your work never exhaust you.

May it release wellsprings of refreshment, inspiration, and excitement.

May the day never burden.

May dawn find hope in your heart, approaching your new day with dreams, possibilities and promises.

May evening find you gracious and fulfilled.

May your soul calm, console and renew you. May it be the source that will guide and bless your work...OUR WORK.

The following members/families have needed our thoughts and prayers:

- Terri Klaphake, Judy Cummens daughter, Gamma Zeta, is being treated for cancer.
- Audrey Irons, Beta Sigma, brother passed away.
- Ann Becker, former MN member now from Arkansas, husband, Bob, passed away.
- Betty Marler, Gamma Omega, had foot surgery.
- Nancy & Kerm Johnson, Alpha Sigma, birth of a granddaughter.
- Family of Phyllis Fletcher, Beta Sigma, Phyllis passed away.
- Harry Waller & Family, Beta Sigma, Donna Waller passed away.
- Barb Perales, Texas member, became ill at IC Convention banquet.
- Nadine Morrill, Terri Olson's sister, Delta Mu, her son in coma-outlook not good.
- Gary Staffanson, Pat's husband, Omega Chi, had back surgery on July 27

Karen Ronning – Sr. Circle of Life

As many of you know, people have been hit hard by the economy. For this reason, donations have been down at St. Jude. So much so, that ALSAC had to let go 70 of its fundraising staff. In order to help, it was decided not to send the Circle of Life Coordinators to Memphis and St. Jude. The money was better spent on the hospital itself or raising funds.

As disappointing as it was not to get to go see St. Jude, it also raises a bigger question – What Can we do to help St. Jude? At the International Convention we learned that ESA raised an amazing \$8,526,930 this past year!! As wonderful as that is, we need to do more. We can do more!

We have the Style show in November. If you normally bring one guest, try to bring two. If you would like to come and just need a ride, we would be happy to help! Many members have offered to drive, just let us know where you live and we would be happy to set that up for you.

There will be some new events to try; scrapbooking and a wine tasting for St. Jude. Come join us for fun and bring as many friends as you can. Let's try and bring more awareness to ESA and the fun we have together while raising money for a good cause.

I would be happy to help any chapter or individual that is planning a fundraiser for St. Jude. With your help, this year will be an even BIGGER fundraising year!!

Birdie Elkofska/Sharon Desarmeaux – MARC Reps

One of the most important duties for a MARC Rep is to encourage attendance at the MARC Conferences. Minnesota has had many attendees in the past. But our numbers are going down. We want LOTS and LOTS of our Minnesota members to attend this year. WHY? This conference is so full of educational information, fun, new friendships, old friendships, fun and did I mention fun. Yes there are business meetings and I hate to tell you this bylaws. BUT the good times far override those bylaws... that is a promise.

Air fare is not too bad and it is an easy drive to Indianapolis. If you think you might be interested but just do not want to go alone, just give us a call and we

will help you find a roommate for the conference. Some people want to stay with just two to a room and others like a bunch.

The point is, we do not want anyone who is interested to stay home because they just do not want to go alone. In ESA you are never alone.

The dates: October 8 - 10, 2010
The place: Wyndham Hotel
Indianapolis, Indiana
The cost: \$120.00

The theme this year for the Friday Educational Conference is "GO GREEN." There will be many things to learn on this rather current topic. And I see they have even gone electrically green with the computer workshop.

Saturday is the MARC Business Meeting and it will continue into Sunday morning.

The Registration Fee of \$120 covers the Friday Educational Day, Friday Lunch, Mixer, Saturday Lunch, Saturday Banquet and Sunday Brunch. Yes that indeed is FOUR meals. PLUS all the regular conference expenses.

I know after each MARC Conference you hear ESAers saying how much fun they had at MARC. Now is your opportunity to join in the fun and enjoy a wonderful experience.

State Meeting – Attention!! Attention!!

Please bring school supplies, underwear and neutral colored sweatpants to the State Meeting on August 22. Sizes for underwear and sweatpants – 4 to 8. Beta Sigma has members who teach in poorer schools where they have an ongoing need for clean underwear and sweatpants. The underwear should be new, but the sweatpants can be gently used or new. Please avoid colors like pink, rose or pastels which suggest girls. Neutral colors work best and can be used by either a boy or girl.

School supplies of all kinds are needed. There is a special need for backpacks.

Thank you! See you on the 22nd!
Beta Sigma, Host Chapter

Alpha Lambda – Kathie Wasson

Congratulations to all who worked so hard to make the 2010 International Convention held in Minneapolis a success!! Our own Kate Sala served as one of the chairmen for the event.

Alpha Lambda chapter officers for the 2010-2011 year: President, Kathie Wasson; Treasurer, Pat Schwope; Secretary, Philanthropic Chair, Mary Parr. We will begin our meetings for the 2010-2011 sorority year in September.

Summer news from Alpha Lambda: Mary Parr and her daughter, Liz, will be traveling to Europe July 23 through August 9. Kathie Wasson and friends spent a relaxing week along the North Shore in early July. Kate Sala and Mary Parr, along with other family members have been traveling to Madison, WI, enjoying some family events. Margaret Smith has been working on several church events.

It has been a good summer for Pat Schwope: Melissa Uzelac (former Alpha Lambda member and Pat Schwope's daughter), along with her husband Mike and son Joseph are expecting a new baby the week between Christmas and New Year's. We are all "over the moon" at this good news!

At the St. Paul Camera Club's Annual Banquet and Awards Night in June, Pat received the Color Slide of the Year Award for "Vineyard Grapes," a color slide taken at the Chandler Reach Vineyards in Benton City, Washington.

Pat was simply thrilled to receive the first and second place ribbons in the International Convention's Association of the Arts Photography Division. First place was for "Desolation," a print made from a color slide of an abandoned house outside Two Harbors, Minnesota, which was double-mounted with a close-up color slide of peeling paint. (In 2000, this same print also won first place in the Visual Arts Division of the Minnesota Association of the Arts.) Second place was for "Diazachrome Sky," a print made from a triple-mounted color slide of a barn in Iowa – the original color slide is mounted with a black and white Kodalith slide, as well as with a red Diazachrome slide.

The last week of July, Gene and Pat took their two grandsons, Joseph Uzelac, age 6, and Isaac Capistrant, age 5, to the North Shore and then to Duluth to see the Parade of Sail (the grand entry of the eight Tall Ships), to attend the UMD performance of Gilbert & Sullivan's "Pirates of Penzance," and to tour the Tall Ships.

Alpha Sigma – Birdie Elkofska

The IC Convention was stupendous! Minnesota really showed everyone how to have a good time! And Alpha Sigma was there in full force to help put on the best darn IC Convention in a long time.

Diane Vanusek traveled to Seattle to celebrate her niece's high school graduation. Great seafood! She also traveled to Bismarck ND to celebrate the life of her brother-in-law, who died after a long illness. Her next trip is to Winnipeg for "Folkerama" with her biological sisters for their fifth semi-annual trip. Great Fun!

In June, Diane Vanusek, Birdie Elkofska and Sharon Lange visited the Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit and the Omnitheater at the Science Museum in St. Paul. There was so much history and so many facts. Afterward we enjoyed lunch at an old Northeast restaurant ... JAX. Very nice day.

Birdie and Sharon L also saw the Tall Ships sail into Duluth which was spectacular. There were 7 tall ships and lots of little sail boats. They were anchored and/or sailing in front of Brighton Beach which was their "holding" area before sailing into the harbor. Birdie and Sharon had front row picnic table seats and could see everything on board with binoculars. All of the ships were different. Their next venture is a trip to the Canadian Rockies--Banff and Lake Louise. "We keep hearing about how beautiful it is--we've got to see it for ourselves".

To get ready for her vacation in Canada, Birdie started a walking campaign. "The pond I walk around is less than ONE mile but it feels like ten miles at least. What's with that!!! After a few weeks of walking around that pond, I can now make it back home before collapsing. They say this exercise is good for you. I doubt anything good for me can cause me so much misery.

Over the last two months, Rose Bitter has been extremely busy. She attended her niece's wedding in Pflugerville, TX and had a nice trip to Detroit to visit her mother-in-law after a broken hip. The room addition to their cabin is coming along nicely and should be finished before the end of summer. Work is crazier than ever. She says she definitely needs a vacation.

The biggest news in Nancy Johnson's life is the birth of granddaughter Evylen Margaret Brosch, born June 27th. Knowing Nancy, she couldn't get to Osh Kosh, Wisconsin fast enough to see the new baby and play with her first granddaughter, Sienna. Nancy also had a

mini vacation up north visiting her Brother and Sister-in-Law at their cabin. The weather was beautiful. And last, Nancy's daughter has started her Medical Residency at Park Nicolet Clinic and Methodist Hospital. So Nancy has been busy moving her daughter and husband into their Town Home in Hopkins. Nancy says she's forgotten how messy a move is on moving day.

And we're all disappointed that there is not enough time this year for our annual garage sale fundraiser, but we're looking forward to the St. Jude auction.

Alpha Theta – Mary Jane Rosenberg

Here it is, the last week in July and time again to let you know what's going on in Mankato. This last three months it has been wet at times, stormy, windy and days of just darn hot!

Our group doesn't meet in June, July, and August, but we try to keep in touch with one another. Gloria, Marie and I were able to come up to Medtox for a Monday A.M. shift and how we enjoyed it. Then a group of us went out to Mac's Sports Bar for lunch – had a good time there, too! Florence and Gloria were able to help at the International Convention and seemed very pleased how things were going.

I know many of you saw on the media about the experienced three scuba divers that were in Wisconsin where two of them died and the third survived – well, that one was Marie Squires' oldest son. What a tragic thing for him to experience. Marie has been busy with her Eastern Star programs and has made her backyard into a showplace.

Florence is busy with golfing, food shelf, and has volunteer work for her church. She and Eunie have had new carpeting in their home besides keeping up with her two great-grand nephews.

Gloria is busy out on the farm and mowing a big yard. She has a garden and many flowers. They did go to the lake around Brainerd for a little fishing. They were coming back from there and their boat unhooked from their pickup and went across the pavement and into the ditch. Nothing was damaged too much – and thank goodness no cars were coming.

Rose Marie has been cleaning out her condo and, like all of us, has too much stuff. She has moved over to her Mom's house. Her mother is in a nursing home and won't be coming back into her home. Myself, I did go to Michigan to my family out there the first part of June. A friend of mine went with me. My granddaughter, Leslie, graduated from high school. I

now have only one to graduate from high school. Otherwise, it's just playing cards, going to casinos and trying to stay out of trouble.

Thanks to Jennifer for her work on the Essay for the past years and thanks to Pat for taking on the future Essay.

Thought for the month: "If you don't have time to do it right, you may have time to do it over."

Alpha Zeta – Kim LeTrendre Olson

Alpha Zeta is back! We're taking a break from formalities and plan to have FUN FUN FUN! We kicked off the new sorority year with a BBQ pool party at Kelly and Liz's home in July. It was hot and the water was cool. Did we talk business? No – we just had fun seeing each other again and catching up. We ate, swam, laughed and ate some more. Next BBQ pool party will be at Mari and Jodi's house after their new pool is finished. ;)

We're growing our chapter... Jen Maleitzke is pledging a new member due to arrive on or about October 16th. Yes—she's having a baby!!! We are so excited for her and her husband, Jake. We'll all be anxiously waiting to see the new little Maleitzke.

Julie is drumming up another unique idea to showcase her pictures from Iceland at the MN State Fair. The photographs are incredible and we're sure she'll win a blue ribbon. Both Kim and Jodi are recovering from planning the IC Convention. It feels good to get back to "normal." Mari has been doing some traveling to visit family back home. It's good to see her out of the office. Jodi and Mari head back to Milwaukee for a Brewers game where they will be honoring the Lang family for their involvement with organ donations (<http://www.zimbio.com/Why+Donate+Organs/articles/5qEg4j0FJPs/DONATE+LIFE+ORGAN+DONATION+AWARENESS+WISCONSIN>). Mark and Kerri are enjoying their summer and their pool. We're all waiting for an invitation to their next BBQ pool party. Guess we should consider changing our chapter membership requirements to "must own a pool." Ha! Liz was recently promoted to supervisor at her work and we're so proud of her. We're waiting for Kelly to sign the membership form and give us her dues check so she can be an official member of ESA.

Save your Butter Braid orders for Alpha Zeta. This fall we'll be selling them again to raise funds for the various charities we support. They are delicious! We may even bring one or two to a future state meeting to entice you all to buy a few. We're looking forward to another fabulous ESA year!

Gamma Omega – Betty Marler

Happy Summer ESAers! Hopefully you've been enjoying the lakes, the biking and hiking trails, concerts in the park and relaxing on your deck. Ahhh, life is good in Minnesota!

Gamma Omega members are ENERGIZED and ready for an exciting year of service, education and, of course, socializing. We had fun putting together the centerpieces for the IC Convention Recognition Luncheon. They were darling! Most of the centerpieces were taken to Arkansas for their upcoming meeting in August or they went off to a Boys Scout event in Missouri. It's nice to know they'll be reused!

Congratulations of our IC Convention Chair – Jodi Lang, and co-chairs – Julene Donnay and Kim LeTendre-Olson and the committee chairs and all the ESA members/friends/family for the wonderfully orchestrated IC Convention. So many people stopped by the registration table to let us know how much fun they were having, or how much they enjoyed the newly designed Wheaties boxes. What fun we ALL had as we were 'Playin' in the Land of Lakes'!

Our June 5th Cheers for the Troops fundraiser was a successful, fun event. We raised over \$2,600 for Minnesota Veteran Family Support. The funds raised went to purchase backpacks and school supplies for the Minnesota families who serve. It was a tremendous success and thank you to all of you who attended. Another Cheers for the Troops is in the works!

On July 31 Gamma Omega members served lunch at Ronald McDonald House. The families are extremely appreciative of the delicious meal and of us for taking the time to care about them. It is heartwarming to do such a simple thing for them.

Next on our schedule is our first chapter meeting on August 18th at Joyce VanKempen's home in Brooklyn Park. President Joyce Cobb has some surprises up her sleeve for us and we're excited to act upon them! We're feeling the energy and the passion – it's contagious!

Finally, our hearts ache for the families of Donna Waller and Phyllis Fletcher. We extend our sympathy to their families, to Beta Sigma, and all those who loved these dear ladies. They will truly be missed and we can thank God for our treasured memories.

Until next time, stay well and get energized!
Betty Marler, Substitute Reporter ☺

Sigma Chi – Shirley Laue

I hope everyone is having a good summer. We had some storm damage, but that can all be repaired—except the 100-year old tree we lost. I am looking forward to the 'Great Minnesota Get Together'—The Minnesota State Fair. As you know, I love it. Thanks again to all that attended the State Convention in May. I hope you had as much fun as I did. Also, thank you to all that pitched in and helped me at the crucial time.

A big round of applause goes to Jodi, Julene, and Kim, as well as all the sub-committees, for a job well done planning and instituting the IC Convention. I heard many compliments. A couple of interesting comments from the men (my men). "The state is very clean and do the flowers freeze in the winter."

I am looking forward to a good year.

Beta Theta – DeLores Wiesner

Our first meeting of the year was held Monday, June 14, at the Cherokee Sirloin Room. President Terri Olson installed our officers for the year.

Our Chapter President is Fran Voerding. Her theme is "ESA is —Friendship, Tolerance, Respect Rhonda Krehl will be Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer

Appointed Officers are:

Ways & Means and Essay – DeLores Wiesner
Philanthropic and Jonquil – Jill Dau
Social and Educational – Geri Johnson

Our July meeting was cancelled due to poor attendance. Former member, Jeanette Hansen, celebrated her 90th birthday in July. Lorraine Ford, Mary Harrison and DeLores Wiesner attended.

Ali Prichard, Marge Saurbrey's granddaughter, is assistant basketball coach at South Dakota University. She was captain at Princeton University.

I became a great grandmother for the 7th time in July. Graham Thomas Peterson arrived 20 minutes after his mother arrived at the hospital. Close call!

Sigma Kappa – Sharon Desarmeaux

Sharon Desarmeaux - Our family is going to Eagle River in Upper Michigan the first week of August to bask on the shores of Lake Superior. With friends coming up for a few days we will play tourist as we show them the Keweenaw Peninsula. Plus we will be visiting with family.

Daughter Renee and her friend, Jennifer, were the judges at our IC Convention for the Association of the Arts. Both are art teachers/artists and thoroughly enjoyed doing this. They said the talent was so impressive within ESA. It was great seeing friends you only see at IC Conventions. Jodi, Julene and Kim – you did a fantastic job chairing this IC Convention.

Sigma Kappa's garage sale is August 12-14 at Sharon D's house. We are busy collecting and cleaning out our houses plus getting donations from others. Should be a great one this year!

I am still volunteering at the Alzheimer's Association. Larry and I went to a Twins Game recently with a large group from the Alzheimer's Association.

Karen Ronning - I had a great time attending my first time IC Convention. The Minnesota crew did an amazing job! Many thanks for all the hard work of our great leaders, Jodi, Kim and Julene. The squirt gun fight was definitely a high light for me! Next up is getting things ready for our chapter garage sale. Then comes the time I have been dreading...getting Casey ready to go off to college.

Dana Terry - I had a "Snoutstanding" time at IC!!! Thanks soooo much to Jodi, Julene, & Kim...and all the other chairs and workers for all your hard work! You all are "Sauce-ome"!!! I surprised Quinn by picking up his two boys from their home in Wisconsin for a two week visit. Quinn had to do a double take when he came home from work and saw the boys sitting in our living room. It brought tears to his eyes, and now we all can't stop smiling! We're having a great time!

I am very excited for this ESA year with all the great and fun things planned! Lots to do to keep us energized that's for sure!
Hoping everyone is having a wonderful summer, and looking forward to seeing all my ESA sisters and brothers again soon!
(I've been having ESA withdrawals since IC!!)

Lori Winczewski - This is my warning for not putting anything in for the Essay. After today if I do not send anything in, Casey is going to start making them up for me. I may end up getting married, pregnant, or winning the lottery.

Casey Ronning - I have been spending time at my grandparents' cabin enjoying the summer days. This summer has flown by, it is almost over already. I will be attending UW – River Falls this year. I move in August 29th, the time is coming fast!

Omega Chi – Pat Staffanson

Jen Davies – My 1-year wedding anniversary is coming up on August 20! We're settling into our new house in Cannon Falls. My house in Minneapolis is up for sale – anyone interested?? My sister is expecting her third child and is due any day now!

Juanita Gillespie – Joe and Juanita have had a busy summer with friends and family. It seems like we had something going every weekend. I was so sad I could not attend all of IC Convention. My low back problems decided to flare up while I was in Florida attending a trial the week after the 4th of July. After going to Urgent Care and then to my doctor, I was sent for an MRI which showed a disc protrusion. Yesterday, I went to a spine clinic for an injection and I'm certainly hoping that will do the trick. Last weekend we celebrated my mom's 90th birthday! What a thrill to see her attain that age. We estimated there were probably over 100 people. She got a little tired before it was over, but she managed to visit with everyone. I am very much looking forward to the new sorority year!

Pat Staffanson – What a spring and summer this has been for us! A big thank you to everyone who sent cards, emails, or called when Gary had his back surgery. He had been in a lot of pain for over two months prior to the surgery, so it was a blessing to finally find a doctor who knew what was going on! He is doing well thanks to your prayers and good wishes! Of course, just before he got hurt we brought a new puppy into our lives, so it has been a learning experience for Pat – being a nurse and then a new "Mama" all at once! We are hoping Gary is healed by State Fair time, because we love attending!

Edee Erickson – No response from Edee!

Thank you!

Thank you for thinking of me as I recover from my 'Great Toe' surgery. I appreciate your cards and good wishes for a speedy recovery. On August 4, I return to the surgeon to have the pin removed from my toe and I'll be getting a walking boot – YEAH! It's going to be sweet to be able to get around without my 'friends' – the crutches, wheel chair and knee roller.

Thank you Mary Parr for loaning me your knee roller and thank you Joyce Van Kempen for loaning me your wheel chair. Both have been fabulous and I appreciate you immensely.

With appreciation,
Betty Marler, Gamma Omega

Beta Sigma – Linda Schultz

Well, how does one begin to write at the beginning of this August 2010? It has been such an eventful first third of summer, much to celebrate, much to grieve, much to plan, much to ponder.

Beta Sigma lost two precious sisters this summer...Phyllis Fletcher and Donna Waller. Yes, we grieve for our loss of them but we must also celebrate their lives and their long commitment, contribution, engagement, and involvement with ESA and our chapter. So many of you have known them well and intimately over the years. We say goodbye with love and tribute.

This morning I have learned of the death of Ed Olson, husband to Bonnie, another of our cherished members. My chest constricts with emotion, tears come unbidden, and as I listen to the birdsong symphony in my back garden, I pray for the peace and comfort that surely comes at the end of life's journey. And, I pray for that peace and comfort also for the loved ones of these dear people.

Beta Sigma will continue to honor these beloved ones as we meet on Saturday, the 7th, to plan our fantastic ESA journey of 2010-2011. By the time you read this, the date will be past and we will have set our sails for expression and fulfillment of our president's (Jo Hanson) chosen theme this year of The Many Faces of ESA.

The summer has held many adventures and experiences as well, including Betty Kickertz and husband, Fred, traversing the globe again by way of East Africa and South Africa, managing to spend four days in the Amsterdam Airport enroute to home because of the volcano eruption at the top of Iceland. They met and made new friends during this time as well as learning many lessons about themselves. Leave it to Betty to have the most fantastic experiences.

Karla Nicklaus reported a fun and exciting time of participating in the Bix Race at Davenport, IA, where she and seven family members walked/ran two miles in pouring rain...then on her return trip saw the flooding in Iowa.

Several of our members, Audrey Irons, Mona Peck, Jo Hanson, Leann Monahan, Kay Fogarty, and Karla Nicklaus, spent time at the IC convention in July volunteering as well as attending. Donna and Harry Waller were there for the Foundation Casino Fund Raiser as well. And, of course, there was the earlier

State Convention which as always captures the involvement of many of our members.

Kim Larsen and her husband hosted a tour and open house of her fabulous Hosta gardens and invited ESA and Beta Sigma sisters and guests.

This reporter continues to recover and looks forward to returning to full participation in all things coming!

Linda Schultz, Essay Reporter, Beta Sigma Chapter

Thank You

Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.

~ Mark Twain

Thank you MN ESA for being a part of the successful 2010 IC Convention! After three long years of planning, all of our hard work paid off. Whether you sat on the planning committee, volunteered or simply wished us luck, we appreciate you all. The compliments received from convention attendees continue to pour in — some saying this was the best convention yet. We all had a big part to play in the success of this wonderful event, so we pat you on the back. Our sincere thanks and appreciation to you all.

If you were someone that set up the men's activities, picked up people at the airport, delivered flowers, or decorated the meal functions, THANK YOU!

If you were the one that took pictures, developed pictures, taped pictures, and kept things in the office organized, THANK YOU!

If you were someone that sewed, sliced, cut, pasted, created, shopped, assembled, and any of the other labor intensive jobs, THANK YOU!

If you were the one checking on setups, checking on people, checking on rooms, checking on centerpieces, checking meal counts, THANK YOU!

Did you take some time to come and work the event, iron some flags, work in hospitality, hire the entertainment, represent the Minnesota Council, THANK YOU!

Did you work the food drive event, making and carrying signs, helping to collect food and funds, THANK YOU!

Did you help collect phone cards, flash drives, papers off the chairs, assemble Christmas trees, blow up beach balls, THANK YOU!

Do you know of someone else that helped out and went unnoticed, that came for a day, a meal, or even before the entire event began, say THANK YOU!

It took many hands and many volunteer hours to coordinate, organize, and plan the 168 HOURS of convention. You have all made Minnesota a true Star in the eyes of Epsilon Sigma Alpha!

~ Jodi, Julene and Kim
2010 IC Convention Chair and Co-Chairs



WANT TO JOIN US FOR A PICNIC?

- What:** Minnesota ESA State Meeting
Saturday, August 21, 2010
- Where:** Ridgedale Library, RHR Full Room
12601 Ridgedale Dr., Minnetonka, 55305
- When:** Coffee at 8:30 a.m., Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Hosted by Beta Sigma Chapter.

Please join us for a salad and dessert luncheon. The cost will be \$12.00

Please call Jo Hanson at 952-742-1861 (work) to RSVP

Or e-mail to jo_hanson@cargill.com

Please make your reservations no later than Friday, August 13th.

We will follow up with directions and further information later.





**Invites you to a scrapbooking
fundraiser**

**Benefiting St. Jude Children's
Research Hospital**

Saturday October 9, 2010

10:00am – 6:00pm

*Scrapbooks Too
10518 France Ave S
Bloomington, MN 55431*

Cost \$25

per person

Includes 8 hours cropping, lunch, beverages and snacks!

30 spots available

To Reserve your spot contact:

Dana Terry @ 612-619-0810
Or e-mail to DTerry1023@gmail.com



Epsilon Sigma Alpha International - Midwest Area Regional Council

25th Annual Leadership and Conference -- October 8, 9 and 10, 2010

Wyndham Indianapolis West, 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46241

Registration Form (Please Type or Print Information)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____ FIRST TIME ATTENDEE (check) _____

Officer/Offices Held (Please check all that apply)

MARC President _____ State President _____ IC President _____

MARC Officer _____ State Officer _____ IC Exec Board _____

MARC Past Pres. _____ State Past Pres. _____ IC Committee _____

MARC State Rep. _____ Foundation Board _____ IC Past President _____

MARC Chair/Committee _____ HQ Exec. Dir. _____

Leadership and Conference (Fri. Sat. & Sun.-includes registration fee) \$120.00 \$ _____

Leadership Only (Fri. Speakers and Lunch only - includes registration fee) \$40.00 \$ _____

Conference Only (Fri. Mixer, Sat. & Sun. includes registration fee) \$90.00 \$ _____

	OR	Number	
Partial Registration/Registration Fee	_____	@ \$8.00	\$ _____
Friday Mixer	_____	@ \$6.00	\$ _____
Saturday Luncheon	_____	@ \$22.00	\$ _____
Saturday Evening Installation and Banquet	_____	@ \$38.00	\$ _____
Sunday Brunch	_____	@ \$22.00	\$ _____

TOTAL Enclosed \$ _____

Please read and complete reverse side before mailing your registration

Registration must be postmarked by September 7, 2010. Add \$10.00 to Registration fee if registration is postmarked after September 7, 2010.

PLEASE Note:

If you have special dietary needs or are requesting a vegetarian meal plan, please check this blank _____

Type of meal plan needed _____

Make checks payable to: MARC Conference 2010.

MAIL Registration Form with Check to:

Jaycee Peak, Registration Chair

265 Raintree Drive

Danville, IN 46122

(317) 745-2823

(317) 443-7983 (Cell)

jayceescreativestamping@comcast.net

Registration Deadline - September 7, 2010. Postmarked after the September 7th date add \$10.00 late registration fee.

Should you need to cancel your Leadership and/or Conference registration, the full amount less a \$15.00 processing fee will be refunded, provide the request is in writing and postmarked no later than September 17, 2010. A \$35.00 fee will be assessed on any returned checks.

THANK YOU for registering and joining your MARC Sisters for an interesting workshops, shopping opportunities as well as a fun-filled weekend as MARC Celebrates 25 years of leaving our MARC on ESA at "Indy Indeed", hosted by the Indiana State Council of Epsilon Sigma Alpha International, Inc.

For Registration Chairperson's Use

Received \$ _____ on _____ Check # _____
total amount received date received REGISTRATION # _____

"Celebration" Market Place

The "Celebration" Market Place will be available for the selling of products and crafts, and other fundraising projects during the 25th Annual MARC Leadership and Conference.

Cost \$15.00 for one 6 foot table and 2 chairs.

Hours: Set-up time Friday, 3:00 pm
 Open time Friday, 4:00 to 5:30 pm
 Saturday, 3:00 to 4:30 pm
 Take Down time Saturday, 4:30 to 5:00 pm

The Market Place will be locked during Non-Celebration Market Place times.

"Celebration" Market Place Registration must be received by September 7, 2010.

Make checks payable to MARC Conference 2010.

Mail to:

Jennifer Morris,
"Celebration" Market Place Chair
6759 Smithfield Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46237
Contact: 317-888-4369 e-mail: jenn910@sbcglobal.net

Cut here and return with payment. Thank you.

Please reserve _____ tables(s) at \$15.00 each for a total of \$ _____

Name _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Description of items to be sold: