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Ending this sorority year

Betty Robinson
PRESIDENT

Here it is. My last article as MN state council president. Whew! This year really went by fast!

I want to thank my awesome chapter, Gamma Omega, for putting together a FUN-tastic state convention this year. I sure had a great time on the jungle safari!

We learned a new exercise during the mixer by beating our virtual drums with the "Drums Alive" team. Plus played some innovative games to fill up our passport, and everyone won!

Saturday was filled with our accomplishments and votes for elected officers and philanthropic projects. What a great speaker we had! The hospitality suites were provided to allow a spot for us all to congregate when not in session and we were able to relax, let our hair down and get to know each other.

Diane's installation was absolutely beautiful as we celebrated "What a Wonderful World in ESA". Congratulations, Diane, to you and the elected board. You will have a truly wonderful experience as our new state council president.

There will be a lot of familiar faces next year. The following officers will join Diane at the head table:

Terri Olson, 1st Vice President
Stephanie Andresen, 2nd Vice President
Jackie Swanson, Recording Secretary
Dana Terry, Corresponding Secretary
Mary Parr, Treasurer
Fran Voerding, Parliamentarian
And yours truly as Jr. Past President

Sunday we celebrated the memory of the sisters that

left us, those with years of service milestones, and the Pallas Athene award winners. We cleaned up some business, created new business to think about and got a glimpse into next year's calendar. Plus I received my full crown pin, which I will treasure forever!

I would like to thank the 2008 - 2009 elected and appointed board for all their support. I could not have done it without you. You were the wind that helped me soar. And to the membership, who gave me encouragement through out my tenure, I also thank you.

I hope you all got a chance to "Spread Your Wings and Dare to Soar for ESA". I look forward to seeing "What a Wonderful World (we have) in ESA".

Bless you all. Agape`.



First Vice President → Diane Vanusek

Thank you to all the members who volunteered to be on the appointed board and to the elected board. We have a tall order ahead of us to match the successes of the previous year, but I am looking forward to working with you all this coming year. Upcoming dates to put on your calendar:

May 19, 2009 - "Energizing ESA" at the Ridgedale Library - 6:00 pm. All welcome.

June 20, 2009 - Planning Meeting - at the Anoka County Library, 711 County Rd 10 NE, Blaine. The appointed board, elected board and chapter presidents are requested to come. Anyone else is welcome, just call and tell me you are coming so we can plan.

October 9-11, 2009 - MARC - Holiday Inn, Fairborn, Ohio

Nov 7, 2009 - St. Jude's

Style Show

April 30-May 2, 2010 - State Convention - Marriott West

July 13-18, 2009 - The IC convention, "The Lone Star Extravaganza" is in San Antonio. We have 14 members who plan to attend. The early registration deadline has past, but there is still time to register.

Registration forms can be printed off the ESA web

site, International Council, 2009 convention. Even if you are not going, you can participate in the convention by purchasing "Show Me the Money" tickets, Mystery Night tickets or supporting state members who are participating in the IC Challenge, "The Lone Star Bash" for St. Jude's. Birdie Elkofska, Betty Marler, Dennis Marler, Jodi Lang, Julene Donnay and Kate Sala. I have the tickets and can get them to any interested persons.

Chaplain → Shirley Laue

Thank you for bearing with me as your Chaplain this past year.

It was the second time I have had that privilege. I enjoyed the year and hope I was able to life some of you up, when you needed it the most. The new State Chaplain is Sharon Desarmeaux.

Please send any request you may have to her at--
sharond@usfamily.net

No cards were sent out since the April Essay.

This past year I sent out 47 cards: 16 sympathy, 15 get well, 13 thinking of you and 3 congratulations.

SEND ME A BEAUTIFUL DAY

Take some golden sunshine,
Add a tranquil day in May,
Mix in roses and meadowlarks
And an ocean's salty spray.
Sprinkle tiny raindrops
From a misty morning sky,
Add scores of smiles and laughter,
Our lives to beautify.
Stir in the murmur of a brook
That sings Spring's melody;
Wrap them in the evening hush -
And send them all to me.
(Nora M. Bozeman)

Notes

The Gamma Omega Chapter would like to shout out a Thank You to everyone that attended State Convention this year! We really had a great time entertaining all of you, and

hope you had a wonderful time as well. The Drummers on Friday night were a huge hit, and the speaker on Saturday surely inspired all of us. Thank you Betty for a GREAT YEAR as our state president. You membership shines in their volunteer

hours and dollars donated to many different worthy organizations. It is always amazing when we read those statistics and hand out the awards! Congrats to all of you that attained your years of service and Palles Athenes awards. Another

sign of many dedicated members that have the inspiration of ESA in their hearts!! Thanks again MS. Betty and all of the membership in Minnesota that attended convention!
The Gamma Omega Chapter

ESA Foundation → Karla Kay Nicklaus

“Serving the World Community...Because We Care”

Another successful year for the Foundation – 44 individual members paid dues along with 10 chapters and our State Council. We gained two new members. Renew your membership at \$15 any time plus join the Foundation for the first time at \$25.00.

Again thanks to all who volunteered the 872.5 hours

and contributed \$11,106.28 to the Foundation for dues, scholarships and general fund. The following chapters received awards at State Convention

Hours

- Third Place – Delta Omicron - 11.81 / member
- Second Place – Alpha Sigma – 17.33 / member
- First Place – Alpha

Lambda – 17.65 / member

Monies

- Third Place – Gamma Omega \$118.80 per member
- Second Place – Omega Chi - \$135.91 per member
- First Place – Alpha Lambda - \$989.08 per member

Dennis thanks for your great report of hours and

monies donated!

The membership voted to give two (2) \$1500 scholarships for the 2010-2011. Thanks for your generous support of the Scholarship Fund working Med-Tox and donations. Each one of you are having an important part in investing in the lives of our young people.

St Jude Coordinators

As promised, here is the breakdown of our St Jude dollars as credited to the Circle of Life Office.

Fall Harvest of Hope	\$5,000.00	Craft Sale	\$ 144.00
Style Show Auction	\$4,237.00	KYSM Radiothon	\$60,501.00
Style Show	\$1,001.00	Thanks & Giving Walk	\$3,220.00
Memorials	\$1,120.00	Honorarium	\$ 500.00
IC Challenge	\$1,823.00	Medtox Earnings	\$9,057.00
Team ESA	\$3,220.00	Elvis Event	\$2,235.00
Donations	\$ 300.00	Quilt of Dreams	\$4,335.00
Garage Sale	\$ 50.00	Total	\$96,753.00

You deserve a great pat on the back for all your work this year. Especially Alpha Zeta with the help of several other chapters, for “sticking their neck out” and trying a new event with Elvis. I really appreciate all that everyone did and I am proud to call you sisters and brothers. You are great!

Dianne Ocel, Past Senior Circle of Life Coordinator

I really appreciated going to Memphis for Coordinator training. My feet are back on the ground and you will be hearing from me and my Little Red Wagon very soon.

Judy Cummins, Senior Circle of Life Coordinator

Alzheimer's Association → Sharon Desarmeaux

Thank you to all of you who have supported the Alzheimer's Association for the last seven years as a state philanthropic project. The last check that we gave to the Alzheimer's Association will go towards the parking sponsorship for the Memory Walk in September 2009. So there will be banners on six

busses again. They have appreciated our support over the years. I, of course, will continue to volunteer there as often as I can.

Remember.....we have “a reason to hope”.

Easter Seals → Dennis Marler

Thank you Madam President, for appointing me your ESA Minnesota Easter Seals Chairperson for 2009-2010. As a long-time, passionate supporter of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, this new role is causing me to refocus on something unknown. It's causing me to learn something new: What is Easter Seals? As always, the ESA International website: www.esaintl.com/iccouncil/easter_seals.cfm is the place to go for info.

- EASTER SEALS is the leading non-profit provider of services for individuals with autism, developmental disabilities, physical and mental disabilities, and other special needs.
- As many as one in 150 children are diagnosed with autism.
- Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in the world, increasing at a rate of 10-17 percent a year.
- CAMP HOPE is a new fundraising campaign to provide camping opportunities for children of military families
- CAMP HOPE will provide a week-long camping experience to allow kids of service members to be kids.
- Cost per camper for the week-long program is \$600. (Hint, hint-Chapter Project)

• ESA has been a supporter of Easter Seals since 1982.

WOW! Who knew? The answer of course is, you knew. Look at these Easter Seals' numbers for 2008-2009.

At the state level		
• \$10,564		971 hours
At the chapter level		
• Gamma Omega	\$1,860	158 hours
• Alpha Chi	\$1,498	154 hours
• Omega Chi	\$1,289	58 hours
• Gamma Zeta	\$1,226	113 hours
• Beta Theta	\$1,027	75 hours

Thanks to MedTox, these are amazing numbers. Over \$8,000 and over 900 hours came from our work at MedTox.

But we need to elevate our passion for Easter Seals to a level it hasn't been for some time. Please let me know who in ESA is passionate about the work of Easter Seals. Who among us is willing to take our Easter Seals effort to a new level?

Philanthropic → Dennis Marler

Thank you, each and every one of you, for the wonderful philanthropic work you did this past year. Our totals are once again, amazing!

State Philanthropic Achievements

- Total Philanthropic Monies \$137,048
- Monies per Member \$1,071
- Total Philanthropic Hours 10,543
- Hours per Member 82

Chapter Achievements

Monies per Chapter

1	Gamma Omega	\$28,908
2	Alpha Chi	\$24,556
3	Alpha Sigma	\$13,212

Hours per Chapter

1	Gamma Omega	2,616
2	Alpha Chi	1,551
3	Beta Sigma	1,204

Monies per Member

1	Sigma Kappa	\$3,353
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2	Alpha Lambda	\$2,453
3	Alpha Sigma	\$2,202

Hours per Member

1	Sigma Kappa	201
2	Alpha Sigma	183
3	Gamma Omega	154

At convention, Alexandra House and Bundles of Love were selected as our state projects for the coming year. Barb Winczewski will be the Chairperson for Alexandra House and the Alpha Zeta Chapter will again take the lead for Bundles of Love.

If your favorite organization/project was not selected as one of our state projects, please consider taking it on as a chapter project. Our new State Philanthropic Chairperson, Juanita Gillespie, has the contact information.

Thanks again for making this past year so successful. You never cease to amaze!

Upcoming 2009/2010 ESA Year

Diane Vanusek, Incoming President

Once again the gavel has been passed and a new year in the life of the Minnesota State Council of Epsilon Sigma Alpha has begun. The difference is that this time the members of this State have elected me to serve as your president. I am honored to accept the gavel and very mindful of the trust you have placed in me and the rest of the elected board.

This year promises to be very busy with the usual activities of the State Council. In addition, the State Council has taken on the responsibility of hosting the 2010 International Council Convention here at this very same convention site.

We need all of our members to help carry out an ambitious program to provide educational, service and social related opportunities at the State level.

We need our members also to be willing to help with the planning and organization required to facilitate a grand IC convention.

Members also need to be willing to participate in the activities of individual chapters as they plan and host activities which need participation to be successful.

I certainly do not want to give the impression this year will be all work. There must be times for fun, growth and gaiety liberally spread within and around the times of get-

ting things done.

I was asked at Leadership to set goals for the coming year. The goal I chose is to make ESA known from top to bottom and the action plan is to communicate and publicize the State plans in both traditional and non-traditional ways. ESA has kept its light somewhat under a bushel basket. We do such good things, like providing school supplies to the needy. We have such interesting educational, like what a ship's captain does to sneak into the port of Duluth ahead of the other vessels. We have such good times, like the "Keep It Clean" Comedy luncheon. And what do we do with these good things? We keep it in our sorority world and don't show it to the rest of the world. Jamie, you want us to join Twitter, but I have a question. If we join Twitter and send Tweets, does that make us Twits?

With our new Sorority year beginning and with the planning of the IC Convention here in 2010, we have the perfect opportunity to expand the world of ESA in the our area. We can use every means available to us to shrug off the basket and let our little light become a beacon as we publicize *What a Wonderful World-ESA*.



Minnesota State Council Board of Directors 2009-2010

First Vice President
Terri Olson

Second Vice President
Stephanie Andreson

Recording Secretary
Jackie Swanson

Corresponding Secretary
Dana Terry

Treasurer
Mary Parr

Minnesota State Council 2009-2010 Appointed Board

Alexandra House
Barb Winczweski
Association of the Arts
Nancy Johnson
Bundles of Love
Alpha Zeta
Chaplain
Sharon Desarmeaux
Circle of Life Sr
Judy Cummens
Circle of Life Jr
Karen Ronning
Convention 2010
Shirley Laue and
Sigma Chi
Easter Seals

Dennis Marler
Educational
Kathy Eastlack
ESA Foundation
Karla Kay Nicklaus
ESA Intl Disaster
Fund/MN Love Fund
Betty Robinson
Essay Editor
Jen Maleitzke &
Kathy Konrad
Financial Planning
Committee
Julie Siekkinen
Pat Staffanson
Mary Ellen Seth
Jo Hanson
Hats for Hope/Hope for
Heroes

Belinda Eastlack
Historian
Dana Terry
Hotline
Donna Waller and
Kathy Wasson
MARC Reps
Mona Peck
Birdie Elkofska
Medtox/Ways and Means
Kate Sala
Philanthropic
Juanita Gillspie
Scrapbook
Kim LeTendre-Olson
Social
Fran Fredrickson
Web master
Jill Reamer

Beta Sigma

Linda Schultz

Beta Sigma brings its 52nd year to a grand conclusion as they organize and plan for a new kind of fund raiser in July; and, usher in a new slate of officers in just a few weeks.

July 10th will be an exciting night for Beta Sigma as most of its sisters will hostess the wedding reception of Whitney Schultz and Troy Gonzales. Whitney is the daughter of yours truly. As a thank you for such a personal involvement, Whitney and Troy will contribute \$500 to Beta Sigma.

No, no cooking, no serving dinner, or washing dishes will be necessary. They will just make sure guests have the food and beverages they desire, including cutting and serving a variety of cakes. They get to dress up in evening clothes and when they feel the urge and the music gets to their feet, they may be taking a few turns on the dance floor if they wish. Doesn't this sound like a really fun way to earn a few hun-

dred dollars? Guess whose idea this was? The groom!

On Saturday, May 30th, we will install our new officers and prepare for the coming year.

We are proud to announce the following officers for 2008-2009:

President: Mona Peck

Vice President: Jo Hanson

Treasurer: Jerry Andersen

Recording Secretary: Betty Kickertz

Corresponding Secretary: Marcie Haigh

Parliamentarian: Karla Nicklaus

Appointed board members are as follows:

Awards - Jo Hanson;

Contacts - Detta Foley;

Educational - Leann

Monahan; Essay - Linda

Schultz; Historian -

Bonnie Olson; Jonquil -

Linda Schultz;

Philanthropic - Jo Hanson

& Bonnie Olson;

Photographer - Pat Oman;

Publicity - Linda Schultz;

Social - Diane Rowe;

and, Ways & Means -

Kay Fogarty.

We welcomed home our snowbird, Audrey Irons, as she returned from Arizona in time for the Convention.

Congratulations to our current president, Jackie Swanson, for a certificate awarded at Convention for her submission to the Association of the Arts competition!

Alpha Theta

Mary Jane Rosenberg

I think spring has at least arrived; at least we haven't had any snow or ice for some time now. Oh, yes, even the grass is green and needing mowing.

Our chapter met May 5 at the Best Websters in North Mankato for lunch and had a really nice time and a good meeting. This past month we were a really busy group. We did put the tabs on the BENCO map books. It took us nearly 2 days to do 40 books with 205 tabs each, so you can see we wasted no time. Then on April 6th was Marie Squire's birthday-so we also had a birthday dinner for her-along with our work! On April 18 BENCO asked us to work for their annual meeting held at the Civic Center in Mankato, so

four of us gals, plus Nicole (my granddaughter) worked. Had fun and besides we made a good sum of money for our chapter. On April 27th, we came up to work for Medtox. Marie, Florence, Gloria and myself and as usual, we had a wonderful time and trip.

Sorry we had to miss the convention as it has always been a fun time for all of us-but other commitments were in our way this year. Needless to say, we were wondering how everything went.

Marie has been very busy with Eastern Star and their Grand Chapter Convention. Her daughter is very involved in as well. Florence has been busy with bridal and baby showers for

her relatives. Her great-grand-niece was baptized on May 3rd in Rochester and it was special. Rose Marie told us yesterday that her mother's eyesight is just about all gone, so she is her total caretaker now, so she has her hands full of being a great daughter! Gloria is busy with Florian, farming, going to plays, concerts, dancing and visiting Sioux Falls, where her brother lives. Myself, I find I have nothing to do when I get up in the morning, and I'm only half done when I go to bed! Oh yes, Marge joined our group yesterday and we were so glad she could be with us-still not feeling the greatest.

Thought of the month: Successful folks don't just entertain thoughts, they put them to work.

Sigma Kappa

*Sharon Desarmeaux, Karen Ronning,
Debbie Coolman*

From Debbie:
I attended my first State Convention and enjoyed getting to know everyone better. I was Jewel Pinned at State Convention and also received my First Pearl Award. I am participating in the Race for the Cure Sunday!

From Sharon:
I will be participating in the Race for the Cure on Mother's Day with Debbie and others. Our team name is "Doin It For Deb." Larry has gone fishing up to Lake Vermillion so I will get a lot of reading done this weekend.

From Karen:
Casey and I had a lot of fun at the Convention. Thank

you to GO for all your hard work. We can't wait to go to the "State Fair" next year! Scott, Karen and Casey are walking in the Race for the Cure on Mother's Day.

From Dana:
First and foremost, I'm very excited to have joined Sigma Kappa, and am looking forward to good times and of course lots of laughter!

I've gone from preparing for ESA State Convention to planning and preparing for the annual Metals Service Center Industry (MSCI) scholarship golf outing. I don't get any time off! I am looking forward to some warm weather so Quinn and I can get out on the Harley!

We had our chapter installation of officers on Tuesday. We also welcomed Dana Terry to our chapter with an installation ceremony. Since Debbie was not at state convention on Sunday, Karen performed the ceremony that Terri did for her First Pearl Award. After that we had a nice dinner at Sharon's and chatted and laughed for a long time. A huge Thank You to Gamma Omega from Sigma Kappa on the wonderful state convention. The mixer was so much fun as was the rest of the weekend.

Alpha Chi

Donna Wakefield

Spring has arrived and we are ending another sorority year. Wow - what an achievement!

Our thanks and congratulations to all of the members who put on such a wonderful state convention. What a fun time!

Our chapter enjoyed our annual end-of-the-year luncheon at the Lake Elmo Inn on Thursday, May 7th. We also celebrated Bev Landers birthday with a champagne toast compliments of the Inn.

Fern Ellison reported that her son, Lee, and his wife have a new baby boy who

was born in April. His name is Jackson and Fern and Marv are anxious to meet him. He lives in Florida so I'm sure a trip to Florida will be in the near future! He joins his other cousin, Evan, who was born in January to their son, Scott. Welcome to the new babies and congratulations to Grandma and Grandpa! Kathy and Stan Rice will be leaving soon to fly to Branson, Missouri for an eight day vacation. They plan to attend many of the shows and just relax.

Kathy Konrad and her husband will be spending some time vacationing in Montana. Sue and Ken

Todd just returned from a bus tour to Atlanta, South Carolina and other interesting places in the southern states.

We are all wishing Ralph Buche, Joane's husband, and quick recovery from his recent surgery. Joane was really missed at our spring luncheon as was Nora Meyers who was ill that day.

We wish all of you a relaxing and healthy summer. Until we write again - Agape' from your Alpha Chi Sister

Alpha Zeta

Kim LeTendre-Olson

State convention has a hoot! Gamma Omega- you all did a great job putting on the 58th Annual State Convention. Members from Alpha Zeta who attended were Jodi, Mari and Kim. Kim received her 15-year service award and Jodi handed over her Miss Congeniality award (which she held onto for TWO years) to Cathy Campbell.

Alpha Zeta plans on ending the year with a game night. Three of our members- Mark, Kerri and Liz- will receive their jewel pin

prior to the commencement of our game night festivities. We'll dig into a big lasagna dinner and then dive into some games that will be sure to test our knowledge, skills, alliances, and strengths. Word on the street is Mark is a very competitive player, so we say to him... bring it on!

Our next gig is volunteering at the concession stand for the comBATTING for Homelessness Softball Tournament benefiting Dakota Woodlands in

Eagan on June 27th. We're still looking for more volunteers to help us so contact Kim LeTendre Olson if you can help. Sometime over the summer we'll meet again to install our officers for next year. We're all looking forward to a fun-filled summer and will try to get together as often as we can (unofficially). We will you all a great summer and we'll see you soon!



epsilon sigma alpha
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