

EVERY DAY
is another Opportunity
to PURRR...sue
YOUR DREAMS



ESSAY— November 2015

November
2015

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DON'T FORGET TO:

- Make your reservation and plan on attending the St. Jude Style Show/Silent Auction on 11/14
- Save the dates July 10–17 for IC Convention in Loveland, Colorado
- Save the dates October 9-11 for the MARC Conference in Bloomington, MN
- Talk about ESA, share your ESA adventure, and bring in a new member!

President—Kate Sala

Meow to you all!

Happy Halloween to you all. I hope it is a **PURRR...fectly** scary day for you as you share it with me this coming Saturday for our 2nd state general membership meeting. I am excited to see what costumes you wear to the meeting. It would be **PURRR...fect** to see some ghouls, mummies, and of course the day would not be complete without having a few cats there!

October has been a busy month for me. Mom and I journeyed to Omaha to attend the MARC Conference; eight Minnesota members attended. We had a great time even with a few mishaps. I will come back to the mishaps later. Workshop day was jam packed with lots of great speakers. The Minnesota cotillion enjoyed a dinner out at Bonefish Grill. I learned Bang Bang Shrimp is to die for and I found out Bonefish Grill is in St. Louis Park. I think we need to think about going there and have a fun night



out. What do you think? The night ended with entertainment by the Dancing Grannies. It just goes to show your life does not end after 60, 70, 80+.

Saturday we had meetings in the morning and a speaker during lunch. Sandy Hongerholt and Betty Robinson sold Tupperware in the marketplace during the weekend and did a great job with portions of the money from items sold going for a philanthropic cause. Way to go you two! Saturday night the entertainment was hilarious and musical. Of course the food was great. Thank you Nebraska for hosting a wonderful conference.

Now on to the mishap. Long story short, mom fell during the MARC Conference Saturday night banquet. From this fall,

she has been experiencing similar symptoms she had in January which landed her into the hospital. We have all been very concerned and have been at doctors, doctors, and more doctors with tests galore. I have been driving all over the place taking her to her appointments and we still are not sure of the answers. What we do know is there is something more going on than the TBI. So, Terri and our Minnesota membership I must apologize for not meeting my EsSay deadline and making this issue later than normal. It has been an extremely emotional roller-coaster the last two weeks and unfortunately it is still not finished.

I did take time to attend Gamma Omega's Wounded Warrior event on Saturday the 20th. The GO chapter put together a great event in conjunction with the VFW men's auxiliary. There was LOTS of FOOD, BEER, and auction items. I was glad to see many of you there supporting GO. I heard a rumor it was a very successful event.

Our next big event coming up is the Alpha Sigma St. Jude Style Show on November

President—continued

14th. Thank you AS for taking on the challenge of hosting the entire event. I hope you have all bought your tickets and are bringing a friend to share the experience.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at our next state meeting on Halloween.

Here again is my contact information.

Please note the fastest way to get a response from me is by contacting me at my work email. **Contact me at: 763 229 5257**

Preferred if response needed ASAP ksala@isd12.org
sala@visi.com

I want to thank all of you who have decided to make "Every Day an Opportunity to Purrr...sue Your Dreams" with me.



1st Vice President—Dana Terry

As October ends, we enter the time of year to give thanks. I can't help but be thankful for what ESA has brought to me. Because of ESA, I have come to better understand things I excel at as well as things that are difficult for me. Because of ESA, I have overcome some of my fears. Because of ESA, I have a place where I can share my talents and creativity. Because of ESA, I know there are people out there that I can count on. Because of ESA, I have found a passion for volunteering. ESA makes our lives richer and more meaningful. I am thankful for ESA, and my one wish is that everyone

could know this feeling I get from ESA. Wouldn't you agree?

Share your "Because of ESA" with others, even our own members, and let them see the richness it has brought to your life. Sometimes we need to remind each other what we like about ESA. The fun times. The good times. Our hopes for the future. We need to push aside the negative thoughts and try to focus on the positive. Be thankful for what we have and what we are. I wish you all a peaceful, fun, and filling Thanksgiving. And, good luck if you are braving the stores for some black Friday shopping!

Leadership spotlight:

This month we're on the letter D. D is for determination. Determined people possess the stamina and courage to pursue their ambitions despite criticism or unfavorable circumstances. In fact, discouragement usually spurs them on to greater things. When they get discouraged, they recognize that in order to get different results, some change is required. Determined people also exhibit another "D" trait: discipline.

2nd Vice President—Sandy Hongerholt

Hello Minnesota ESA!

Another month over. It seems like the older I get the faster time goes. I went to the MARC Conference in October for the first time. We had eight Minnesota members attend. I think that's pretty good considering we have 80+ members. I met some new people, reconnected with some from other states that I met previously and learned a bit more about MARC.

Next year our state is hosting the MARC Conference. Terri Olson and Julene Donnay are heading up the committee for this. **If you are interested in helping them, contact either Terri or Julene.**

Gamma Omega had a very successful Wounded Warrior Cheers for the

Troops. We raised just over \$3000.00. Thank you to all the ESA members that joined us. We do appreciate the support. GO is also planning the State Holiday Social. It is being held in Arlene Besemann's party room on January 9th 1-4pm. More information to follow.

Dig out your favorite Chili recipes for the State Leadership Meeting. Mark your calendar for January 23rd. More information to follow.



Because it is the month of Thanksgiving here is a message of Giving Thanks. Author is unknown.

- Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire.....If you did, what would there be to look forward to?
- Be thankful when you don't know something.....For it gives you an opportunity to learn.
- Be thankful for the difficult times.....During those times you grow.
- Be thankful for your limitations.....They give you opportunities for improvement.
- Be thankful for each new chal-

2nd Vice President—continued

- lence.....Which will build your strength and character.
- Be thankful for your mistakes.....They will teach you valuable lessons.

- It's easy to be thankful for the 'good' things.....Yet; a life of rich fulfillment comes to those that are thankful for their setbacks.
- Gratitude can turn a negative

into a positive.....Find a way to be thankful for your troubles and the can become your blessings.

Wishing you and yours a Happy Thanksgiving!

Jr. Past President—Jackie Swanson

Hope for the holidays

The holidays, in particular, are a

MN ESA Love Fund & ESA International Disaster Fund.

We need to keep these funds growing! I would hate to think that we might have to turn away a member in need because there are not enough funds to go around. Wouldn't it be wonderful to see these funds GROW?

A person never knows what could befall them. I recently heard from a friend outside of ESA whose house recently was destroyed in a fire, the family displaced and most of their belongings, clothes, furniture, electronics, family photos, and memorabilia - gone. Transitioning is difficult and the family will be dislodged for six months or more while rebuilding their home. We are blessed in ESA.

time to think of giving extra. Over the next few



months I would like to encourage

chapters in Minnesota to hold at least one chapter project for the MN ESA Love Fund and the ESA International Disaster Fund. It could be as simple as having a white elephant sale and designating proceeds to Love and Disaster. Please continue to make donations to the MN ESA Love Fund and the ESA International Disaster Fund at every opportunity.

For just a little pocket change tossed into the containers provided at our state membership meetings you will give the gift of hope, relief, and caring. As always, thank you for your contributions to the MN ESA Love and ESA International Disaster Funds.

Association of Arts—Jackie Swanson

Get Into Your Creative Groove

October, November, and December are great months to get your creative groove on!



October - find the perfect pumpkin and use a different approach rather than carving. Why not gold paint with black polka dots, stripes or swirls? Why not black button eyes,

nose and grin attached with nails or push-pins? You can use real or faux pumpkins (Faux pumpkins could be entered in Association of the ARTS!) Halloween provides lots of ways to let your imagination run wild!



November – doesn't November just scream good things to eat like roasted fall vegetables, apple pie and turkey! Try your favorite recipe and recreate it for Association of the ARTS. Bring Creativity to

your table – use a hollowed out mini pumpkin for your dip along with your cut up veggies. Bring out those beautiful scarves to drape in the middle of your table with some gourds, pumpkins and colored corn-on-the-

cob. Martha Stewart, eat your heart out!

December – Have a "cookie decoration" or an "ornament-making" party – Go out on a limb and decorate your holiday tree using



a favorite theme — snap some pictures — enter them in the Association of the ARTS



Association of Arts—continued

Find your niche and get CREATIVE!

ART & Alzheimers. I have spoken to you of the positive effects of art with Alzheimer's patients and how art therapy affects the brain. However, early detection of Alzheimer's matters. Do YOU know the **10 signs of Alzheimer's?**

1 Memory changes that disrupt daily life.

2 Challenges in planning or solving problems.

3 Difficulty completing familiar tasks.

4 Confusion with time or place.

5 Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships.

6 New problems with words in speaking or writing.

7 Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps.

8 Decreased or poor judgment.

9 Withdrawal from work or social activities.

10 Changes in mood and personality.

Chaplain—Kathy Rice

When you are in control of your life and your happiness, your joy is infectious. Nothing in this world makes a person look more beautiful than when they are beaming with happiness. You never know how a simple smile or "how are you, really?" to a friend could change their day, or even, life.

Goal: Smile and show the world how beautiful you are. Be conscious of people's emotions around you and remember the impact you can have on them.

Staying strong 365 days a year
Demi Lovato

Cards sent in September:

- Mona Peck (Beta Sigma) – fell; injured arm, has bruising

Cards sent in October:

- Bernice McCullough (Gamma Zeta) – celebrating 101 years old on October 22nd
- Mary Parr (Alpha Lambda) – health issues

Miss Tilly has a fun Christmas recipe:

Peppermint Candy Cookie Tray

Need:

- Preheat oven to 350°F
- Pizza pan – any size (depends

on how many cookies you will place on candy tray)

- Parchment paper – cut to fit pizza pan
- Red and white mints – take individual papers off
- Green and white mints – take individual papers off

Directions:

1. Lay candy in a design on parchment paper.
2. Bake 8-10 minutes at 350°F; candy colors will run together
3. Let cool.
4. Remove from pan and pull parchment paper off (or leave on for easier handling).

Convention—Gamma Zeta

As I write this article on a rainy cool Friday afternoon, believe me, I am Thinking Spring! We finally have the hotel set up for our convention on May 13 and 14, 2016. The Hilton Garden Inn in Shoreview is a smaller site than we are used to, but I think it will be a good fit for our meetings and celebration of our yearly accomplishments. Located at Lexington Avenue and Highway 694 in Shorewood it is across the parking lot from the Hampton Inn and

Green Mill Restaurant. They are now set up to take room reservations by phone or on a web page set up for us. The link to that web site is <http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/M/MSPSHG-ESA-20160513/index.jhtml>

This link is also available on the Minnesota Website, use code ESA to register for our room block. Included in this issue of the Essay is the Registration form for convention

with the hotel phone number for registration if you prefer to reserve by phone. Rooms are \$99.00 plus tax for single king and \$109.00 plus tax for double queen.

Also in regard to room reservations, I have 15 rooms blocked for Friday nite and 10 rooms blocked for Saturday nite. The only way I will know if we need to increase the block is if you let me know you have booked a room and for which or both nights. I

Convention—continued

will keep count and increase the block if it looks like we need more. My email is jerryocel@aol.com.

We have tried to keep the registration the same as last year keeping in mind that we did not pay for a

Sunday breakfast last year, and food costs may increase by next May. Please call Judy or Dianne with any questions or comments.

Now that all the set up housekeeping is done we can look forward to

planning a fun time for all. Thanks to Dana Terry for helping set up the registration form. Looking forward to any suggestions or help for convention, any or all help is appreciated.

ESA Foundation—Karla Kay Nicklaus

An exciting time is just around the corner....the time to begin the new scholarships/grants year. Students are can now apply for 2016-2017 scholarships.

Go to www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org, click on scholarships/grants and

select state – Minnesota. The student will view all scholarships available for Minnesota residents. The Minnesota State Endowment will award (2) scholarships in the amount of \$1300 each for the 2016-2017 year.

Also, a reminder to pay your annual dues....send to ESA Foundation, 363 West Drake Road, Fort Collins, CO 80626. This past month Alpha Sigma and Beta Sigma paid their dues. Thanks...

Hope for Heroes—Shirley Laue



THE HOLIDAY WREATH LAYING TO HONOR VETERANS will be held December 12, 2015 at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery. Volunteers meet at 9:30 for instructions and start putting the wreaths out at 11:00. All wreaths are laid by volunteers. Please call Shirley Laue to

volunteer. This event could move you in ways you would not expect.

This project was started in 2006 with



131 National Cemeteries and State Veterans Cemeteries; also at 24 National Cemeteries on foreign soil. Now there are over 800 participating locations. In ancient Rome people used wreaths as a sign of victory. Some believe this is where the hanging of wreaths on doors came from.

"Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive." - Howard Thurman

MN Literacy Council—Nikki Weller

We have a "what, when, where and a why"...we just need the "WHO!"

The MN Literacy Council has graciously agreed to do a special *Volunteer Information Session* for MN ESA on *Saturday, December 5*. These sessions are typically held on weeknights so we are fortunate they are willing to accommodate our weekend and daylight-hours volunteer request. Additionally, they will host a "materials-making" session

and possibly some book "sorting and sticker-ing."

The information session will include many ideas about how each person can use their own gifts to volunteer. It will be from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM. At this time we will take a small break and afterwards, we will go to work with our hands to create from 11:45 AM to 1:00 PM.

As all good ESA functions do, be-

fore the learning and giving begin, we will have coffee, goodies and gabbing at 9:30 AM.

It is important to carefully consider and open up this organization to other people in your life who may have some gifts to share with the Literacy Council. They do not have to be interested in joining ESA *to be a part of a network we are trying to develop for the sake of literacy awareness*. Spouses, adult-aged chil-

MN Literacy Council—continued

dren/nieces/nephews/grandchildren, siblings, friends, neighbors, co-workers, church members...anyone in whom you have seen this spark to help people learn how to read, write, speak or listen would be a great networking opportunity for this organization we have committed to help. They need volunteers so it is a part of our job to investigate further to find out what we have to share and to help match them up with people interested in volunteering their gifts in this capacity.

PLEASE RSVP AS SOON AS YOU KNOW IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING THIS EVENT ON DECEMBER 5 AND HOW MANY EXTRA GUESTS WILL BE ATTENDING WITH YOU.

dominiqueweller@gmail.com

763-218-7568

After the learning, creating, working, sharing, introducing and gabbing, we will meet at a nearby restaurant for a late lunch and/or early cocktail hour. I

want to investigate the best possible place to which we can caravan and have some social and catch-up time (about 1:30 PM) – I will put the location of this place in the reminder about the event and to RSVP. If you cannot make the morning volunteering but your afternoon is free, please come and socialize anyway...and if you cannot make lunch but only the MN Literacy Council event, all is well.

At the September meeting, I gave you a few ideas about how you can bargain and deal-shop for books throughout the year with a few companies from whom I happen to receive emails. I will include those addresses below and a few more I receive as an educator. If you have others, send them my way and I will pass them along to others. Our book drive, planned for later this winter (February or March) will be much more abundant if we begin collecting books now, and if we reach out to others to help us collect them. I am

including an updated list of children's books suggestions and an additional list of classroom supplies they have targeted as their largest needs. These items will also be collected at our book drive. Of course, you are welcome to bring the books and/or supplies you have collected to this point on December 5.

Half-Price Books:

<https://www.hpb.com/>

Scholastic:

<http://www.scholastic.com/home/>

(This website is also good for matching age & grade level of books.)

The Reading Warehouse:

<https://www.thereadingwarehouse.com/>

Wilbooks: <http://www.wilbooks.com/>

(This website is also good for books for Pre-K through Third Grade.)

Philanthropic—Betty Robinson

Below is the last installment of the Philanthropic Service Guidelines from the ESA International Council *Essential Edge General Board* document. The entire document can be found on the Epsilon Sigma Alpha website: www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org. Once logged in to the Member Center, under the Chapter/Council Mgt. menu option at the top right-hand side of the page, and under Forms, click on the International Council Forms option. Scroll down and click on the Essential Edge General Board Rev 01-2015 link to open. Let me know if you are unable to find it.

The Philanthropic Service Guidelines begin on Page B-61. In the September 2015 Essay, **Section I. General Information** was provided for your reading pleasure. And in the October 2015 Essay, the next two sections were provided.

IV. Clarifications

A. Homemade Items donated to a philanthropic-service project – count time spent making, baking, etc. and the value of materials used in the items. Homemade items cannot be counted as cash until they have been sold.

B. National Drives, Radiothons/ Telethons

1. When an event is totally organized by ESA, count all hours worked

2. monies received, less expenses

3. If a Chapter only performs part of the work, count hours only. The percentage factor on the ESA chapter's responsibilities, and mutual agreement between the fundraising organization and the ESA chapter(s) prior to the event, will determine the monies credited to ESA.

C. St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

1. Reporting is counted the same as any other ESA service project. Count all hours/mileage and net monies donated.

2. Do not count extra hours or monies spent or a complimentary room voucher for working in a distant city for a St. Jude event.

D. National Easter Seals Society

1. Reporting is counted the same as any other ESA service project.

2. Check with your local Easter Seal Coordinator relative to the "Cartridges for KidsEaster Seals" project.

E. Bloodmobiles and Blood donations

1. Count chapter hours for

Philanthropic—continued

sponsoring the drive and registering donors, etc.

2. Count ESA member's blood donation (whole blood = \$50 per pint & platelets = \$200 per pint)

F. ESA Foundation Turn-Around Fund

1. Make your chapter check payable to "ESA Foundation".

2. A form can be found on the Foundation website www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org, or through your ESA Foundation Counselor or the ESA Founda-

tion, 363 West Drake Road, Ft Collins, CO 80526. Telephone: (970) 223-2824.

G. Cash Register Receipts

1. Receipts redeemed for computers and other school equipment may be counted as a donation.

2. Count only 12.5% of the total amount of the receipt, not the total amount

H. Manufacturer's Coupons

1. Count manufacturer's coupons

donated as part of a service project as face value stated on coupon.

2. Count chapter hours for preparing donated manufacturer's coupons.

As you track your philanthropic hours, and donations (either goods or monies), don't forget to also record your mileage. Please let me know if you have any philanthropic questions. You can contact me by email at bettyarobinson@comcast.net or by phone 763.478.1502.

Operation No Limit—Birdie Elkofska

This project benefits the young adults in the Anoka County Youth Correctional Facility located in Lino Lakes, Minnesota. Project No Limit works one on one with these detainees on a volunteer basis. What ESA can do is assist by visiting the facility and providing light social interaction. As ESA Chairman I had worked up a program to do some Halloween crafts and food items as well as Halloween themed BINGO. This would have been about 1-1/2 to 2 hours with a small group of girls. I am so sorry to say that there was not much interest in tackling this visitation. Two volunteers just is not enough to accomplish any kind of activity based visit. So I did cancel the

ESA visit for October. Is there interest in a visit in the future?

Before I organize another visit with games and activities, I will want to know the answer to that question. Luckily, all supplies (except for one bag of Halloween candy, which I ate) were able to be returned for full credit. No expenses for the proposed day at Lino Lakes were incurred.

To support this ESA State Project, I propose we do some sort of Valentine's Day hand out. Perhaps, a Big Valentine filled with Valentine candy and cards and game books. This could be completed either at the ESA Holiday Party or ESA Minnesota

Leadership and I would deliver these to the facility. This would mean no one-on-one contact. But, we can still do something for the young people without that. PLEASE let me know what your chapter members think of this idea. It will happen IF we have more than two ESA members interested in working on something like this in order to support our state project. If I hear no interest or support, I will go no further. So, chapter presidents and members, please let me know your thoughts. [952-938-3020](tel:952-938-3020) or birdieelkofska@comcast.net

Thanks !!

St Jude Style Show/Silent Auction—Alpha Sigma



Have you made your reservation for the Auction, Luncheon, and Style Show?????

We need to have the luncheon count in by **Nov. 7**. The style show will be done by Chico's. It will be a fun-filled day. Hope to see you there with all your friends and relatives!!!! Sheraton Hotel, 12201 Ridgedale Drive, Minnetonka MN 55305

Send reservations to Rose Bitter - rosebitter@msn.com or call her at [952-937-8563](tel:952-937-8563)



Minnesota Literacy Council - Children's Book List Suggestions for Donations

The Minnesota Literacy Council seeks new or gently used **children's books for ages 3-12**, including board books, leveled readers for K-3, early chapter books, both fiction and non-fiction, and others appropriate for this age range. As a non-sectarian nonprofit organization, we cannot accept books with religious or holiday themes. For more information on how to donate books, contact Wendy Roberts at wroberts@mnliteracy.org, 651-251-9063 or visit <http://www.mnliteracy.org/support/book-donations>.

Our highest needs:

- Multicultural books – books with characters that represent diverse identities and/or themes around diversity or multiculturalism
- Board books/early readers
- Bilingual books (especially Spanish-English, Somali-English and Hmong-English)

Some Suggested Titles:

- ¡Viva México!: The Story of Benito Juárez and Cinco de Mayo by Argentina Palacios
- 1621: A New Look at Thanksgiving, by Catherine O'Neill Grace and Margaret M. Bruchac, with Plimoth Plantation
- 3 Billy Goats Gruff
- 3 Little Monkeys
- A Caribbean Dozen: Poems from Caribbean Poets, edited by John Agard and Grace Nichols
- A Hen in the Wardrobe, By Wendy Meddour
- Abadeha: The Philippine Cinderella, by Myrna J. de la Paz
- All for the Better: The Story of El Barrio by Nicholasa Mohr
- All Kinds of Families by Mary Ann Hoberman
- Allie's basketball dream
- Alphabet Kids book series
- Alvin Ailey by Andrea Davis Pinkney
- Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things, Lenore Look and LeUyen Pham
- Amazing Grace, By Mary Hoffman
- Anna Hibiscus, by Atinuke
- Auntie Yang's Great Soybean Picnic.
- Azzi In Between, By Sarah Garland
- Basho and the river stones.
- Be patient, Abdul
- Bear in a Square
- Bear Snores On
- Bein' with you this way by W. Nikola-Lisa
- Betsey Biggalow is here By Malorie Blackman
- Beyond the Ridge by Paul Goble
- Borreguita and the Coyote: Tale from Ayutia, Mexico by Verna Aardema
- Boys without Names
- Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see?
- Bud, Not Buddy, Christopher Paul Curtis
- Buffalo Woman, Paul Goble
- Busy toes
- Caps For Sale
- Charlie the Caterpillar
- Chato goes cruisin'.
- Chato's kitchen.
- Circles and Squares Everywhere
- Clara Lee and the Apple Pie Dream, by Jenny Han
- Corduroy
- Cradle Me, by Debby Slier
- Crossover, by Alexander Kwame
- Crouching Tiger, by Ying Chang Compestine
- David Gets in Trouble
- Diego Rivera: His World and Ours.
- Dim Sum for Everyone, by Grace Lin
- Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus
- Donovan's Double Trouble, by Monalisa DeGross
- Dream Wolf, Paul Goble

- Each Kindness, by Jacqueline Woodson
- Esperanza Rising, by Pam Muñoz Ryan
- Fire Race: A Karuk Coyote Tale About How Fire Came to the People, retold by Jonathan London
- Fly, Eagle, Fly! By Christopher Gregorowski
- Fortune Cookie Fortunes, by Grace Lin
- Fox Song by Joseph Bruchac, illustrated by Paul Morin
- Friends from the Other Side/Amigos Del Otro Lado by Gloria Anzaldúa
- Froggy Gets Dressed
- From Miss Ida's Porch by Sandra Belton
- Fruits: A Caribbean Counting Poem, By Valerie Bloom
- Ganesha's Sweet Tooth, by Sanjay Patel
- Gluskabe and the Four Wishes by Joseph Bruchac
- Gracias Thanks by John Parra
- Grandfather's Journey by Allen Say
- Grandparents Song, by Sheila Hamanaka
- Green Corn Tamales/Tamales De Elote by Gina M. Rodríguez
- Growing Up with Tamales = Los Tamales de Ana
- Growing Vegetable Soup
- H.O.R.S.E.: A Game of Basketball and Imagination, by Christopher Myers
- Hairs/Pelitos by Sandra Cisneros
- Hana Hashimoto, Sixth Violin.
- Handa's Surprise By Eileen Browne
- Happy Day, the
- Henry and the kite dragon.
- Here Come's Kate!
- Here Comes the Big Mean Dust Bunny
- Hiroshima by Laurence Yep
- Hoang Breaks the Lucky Teapot by Rosemary Breckler
- Honey, I Love, and Other Poems
- How Brer Rabbit Became a Scary Monster
- How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?
- How I Became a Ghost: A Choctaw Trail of Tears Story.
- How Many Snails?
- Hue Boy By Rita Phillips Mitchell
- Humpty Dumpty
- Hush
- I Help/ Niwechihaw by Caitlin Dale Nicholson
- I Lost My Tooth in Africa, by Penda Diakitè
- I Love Saturdays y domingos, By Alma Flor Ada
- I Love You, Little One
- I need a Lunchbox
- I Went Walking
- I, Too, Am America by Langston Hughes
- If You Give a Moose a Muffin
- If You Give a Pig a Pancake
- In a Circle Long Ago: A Treasury of Native Lore from North America by Nancy Van Laan
- Indian Shoes by Cynthia Leitich Smith
- Indian Winter by Russell Freeman
- Inside Out & Back Again
- Inside Out and Back Again, Thanhha Lai
- It's Kwanzaa time!
- Jack & Jim by Kitty Crowther
- Jingle Dancer by Cynthia Leitich Smith
- Jonathon and His Mommy
- Joshua and the Door
- Jouanah: A Hmong Cinderella, by Jewell Reinhart Coburn with Tzexa Cherta Lee
- Journey to Jo'Burg By Beverley Naidoo
- Jump Frog Jump
- Just a Minute: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book
- Ka's Garden (Kab Lub Vaj): A Bilingual Children's Book, by Maggie Lee McHugh, Bee Lo, and Vong Lao
- Katie Henio: Navajo Shepherder by Peggy Thomson
- Khobnoom/Candy, by Pang Xiong – Written in Hmong & English

- Kite Flying, by Grace Lin
- Kov yog Hmoob/I am Hmong, by Pang Xiong– Written in Hmong & English
- Kuv Lub Hnubyug/My Birthday, by Pang Xiong– Written in Hmong & English
- Lao Lao of Dragon Mountain.
- Leej Twg Nyob Ntawm Nod?/Who Lives Here?, by Kathleen Rizzi – Translated into Hmong
- Leo, the Late Bloomer
- Leon and Bob, By Simon James
- Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing by James Weldon Johnson
- Lindy, All By Herself
- Ling & Ting Share a Birthday, by Grace Lin
- Ling & Ting: Not Exactly the Same!, by Grace Lin
- Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni
- Little Leap Forward By Guo You
- Little Roja Riding Hood.
- LMNO peas
- Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story from China, Ed Young
- Looking Like Me, by Walter Dean Myers
- Ma'ii and Cousin Horned Toad by Shonto Begay
- Mama, Do You Love Me?
- Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match, by Monica Brown
- Mary Had a Little Lamb
- Maui and the sun: A Maori tale.
- Meet Danitra Brown by Nikki Grimes
- Meshon, Aaron. Take Me Out to the Yakyu
- Mi Familia/ My Family by George Ancona
- Mice Squeak
- Mightier than the sword: World folktales for strong boys.
- Minji's Salon by Eun-hee Choung
- Mirror, By Jeannie Baker
- Mis abuelos y yo.
- Momma Don't Allow
- More, More, More, Said the Baby
- Morning on the Lake, by Jan Bourdeau Waboose
- Mostly Monsterly by Tammi Sauer
- Mov Hmoob/Hmong Food, by Pang Xiong– Written in Hmong & English
- Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters, By John Steptoe
- My Brother Charlie, by Holly Robinson Peete and Ryan Elizabeth Peete
- My dream of Martin Luther King.
- My Family Is Special to Me (Kuv Tsev Neeg Zoo Tshwj Xeeb Rau Kuv), by Bao Xiong
- My Lee Comes to America, by Elmira K. Beyer
- My Name Is Maria Isabel, by Alma Flor Ada
- My People, by Langston Hughes
- New Life In America (Lub Neej Tshiab Nyob Tebchaws Amiskas), by Sheng Yang and Golia Vang
- Nine- In – One – Grr! Grr!
- Niño Wrestles the World.
- Ninth Ward, by Jewell Parker Rhodes
- Not So Fast Songololo By Niki Daly
- Number 1 Car Spotter, By Atinuke
- Older Brother, Younger Brother by Nina Jaffe
- On Mother's Lap
- One Afternoon by Yumi Heo
- One Crazy Summer, by Rita Williams-Garcia
- One Green Apple by Eve Bunting
- Ooka the Wise: Tales of Old Japan by I. G. Edmonds
- Oranges in No Man's Land By Elizabeth Laird
- Over the Hills and Far Away By Elizabeth Hamill
- Owl Babies
- Pa Lia's First Day [at Jackson Magnet School], by Michelle Edwards
- Paco y la bruja: Cuento popular Puertorriqueño. / Paco and the witch: A Puerto Rican folk tale.
- Peboan and Seegwun by Charles Larry
- Pink and Say by Patricia Polacco
- Planting a Rainbow

- Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What do you see?
- Pw Zoo Tus Me Ntshuab/Good Night Little Sea Otter, by Janet Halfmann – Translated into Hmong
- Quinito's Neighborhood (El Vecindario de Quinito), by Ina Cumpiano
- Rabbit Wishes by Linda Shute
- Rapunzel, retold and illustrated by Rachel Isadora
- Red Ridin' in the Hood and Other Cuentos.
- Rickshaw Girl
- Round Is a Mooncake: A Book of Shapes
- Saturday sancocho.
- Sélavi, that is life: A Haitian story of hope.
- Shades of Black: A Celebration of Our Children, by Sandra Pinkney
- Shadow Catcher: The Life and Work of Edward S. Curtis by Laurie Lawlor
- Shin-chi's Canoe, by Nicola Campbell
- Silly Sally
- Sixteen years in sixteen seconds: The Sammy Lee story.
- SkySisters by Jan Bourdeau Waboose
- So Much By Trish Cooke
- Something Beautiful, by Sharon Dennis Wyeth
- Songs from the Loom by Monty Roessel
- Sopa de frijoles: un poema para cocinar = Bean Soup: A Cooking Poem
- Star in the Forest
- Tanuki's gift: A Japanese tale.
- Tar Beach, by Faith Ringgold
- Temple Grandin: How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and Changed the World by Sy Montgomery
- Ten, Nine, Eight
- The Arrival by Shaun Tan
- The Big Hungry Bear
- The Big Orange Splot by Daniel Manus Pinkwater
- The Birchbark House by Louise Erdrich
- The Blue Bird and the Coyote
- The Carrot Seed
- The Colors of Us by Karen Katz
- The Colour of Home By Mary Hoffman
- The Composition, Antonio Skarmeta and Alfonso Ruano
- The Cows Won't Move
- The Crayon Box that Talked
- The Desert Is My Mother/El Desierto Es Mi Madre by Pat Mora
- The Doorbell Rang
- The farmer and the poor God: A folktale from Japan.
- The Firekeeper's Son, by Linda Sue Park
- The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses, Paul Goble
- The Glory Field by Walter Dean Myers
- The Goggle-Eyed Goats By Stephen Davies
- The Golden Sandal: A Middle Eastern Cinderella Story, by Rebecca Hickox
- The Good Luck Cat, by Joy Harjo
- The green frogs: A Korean folktale.
- The HICCUPotamus
- The Journey: Japanese Americans, Racism, and Renewal by Sheila
- The Last Tales of Uncle Remus by Julius Lester
- The leopard's drum: An Asante tale from West Africa.
- The lion's whiskers: An Ethiopian folktale.
- The Napping House
- The New Bear at School
- The Nez Perce: A First Americans Book by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve
- The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales, by Virginia Hamilton
- The Pigeon Wants a Puppy!
- The Princess and the Pea, retold and illustrated by Rachel Isadora
- The Sandwich Swap by Queen Rania of Jordan Al Abdullah and Kelly DiPucchio
- The Sneetches and Other Stories by Dr. Seuss
- The Snowy Day, Ezra Jack Keats
- The Squiggle

- The Stonecutter by Demi
- The Sunday Outing by Gloria Jean Pinkney
- The Sunday Outing by Gloria Jean Pinkney
- The treasure on Gold Street = El tesoro en La Calle Oro.
- The Twins' Blanket, By Hyweon Yum
- The Ugly Vegetables, by Grace Lin
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar
- The Very Quiet Cricket
- The Watsons Go to Birmingham
- The White Deer and Other Stories Told by the Lenape, by John Bierhorst
- The Year of the Book
- There's a Nightmare in My Closet
- Through My Eyes, by Ruby Bridges
- Time for Bed
- Two Mrs. Gibsons by Toyomi Igus
- Txiv Hmab Txiv Ntoof/Fruit, by Pang Xiong– Written in Hmong & English
- Uncle Peter's Amazing Chinese Wedding.
- Under the Moon and Over the Sea: A Collection of Caribbean Poems Edited by John Agard and Grace Nichols
- What Can You Do With a Paleta?
- Where Are the Cars?
- Where Did You Get Your Moccasins? , by Bernelda Wheeler
- Where the Mountain Meets the Moon
- Where the Wild Things Are
- Where's Lenny?, By Ken Wilson-Max
- Wild Berries, by Julie Flett
- Wilma unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph became the world's fastest woman.
- Wings, By Christopher Myers
- Wonder by R.J. Palacio
- Woodson, Jacqueline. Pecan Pie Baby
- Yang the Youngest and His Terrible Ear by Lensey Namioka
- Yesterday I Had the Blues, by Jeron Ashford Frame
- Young Cornrows Callin Out the Moon by Ruth Forman

Additional suggested authors:

- Eloise Greenfield
- Angela Johnson; Faith Ringgold; The Pinkney Family: Jerry and Gloria, son Brian, and his wife, Andrea Davis Pinkney; Joseph Bruchac; Shonto Begay, and Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, Michael Lacapa, Michael Dorris, Gayle Ross, Simon Ortiz, Vee Browne

Simple authors - Arthur Dorros, Joe Hayes, Carmen Lomas Garza, Alma Flor Ada, Pura Belpre

Suggestions for Other Donations

- **1 or 1 ½ inch Three-ring binders**
- **Lined paper**
- **#2 Pencils and Pens**
- **Spiral notebooks**
- Folders w/pockets
- Personal size white boards
- Dry Erase markers and erasers
- Consumables: Coffee, Tea, Sugar, creamer, cups, stir stick, eating utensils, plates, paper towels
- Funds for books
- Air Conditioner
- Flash Drives
- Reading Glasses

CHAPTER NEWS



Alpha Chi—Joane Buche

We are out of Jail! Alpha Chi used their October meeting time to visit the 911 call center. It was very informative and interesting. Bonnie Wakefield did an excellent job explaining all the work they do and all the equipment needed to provide their life saving situations. The Historical Society has done a great job setting up displays of the history of the St. Paul Police Department in another building. We had two guests attend with us – Kathy Lamphere, our rushee, and Pete Peterson.

Remember when we got together “evenings” twice a month – one for educational and one for meetings? Some times w even had time for

socials. Now we have learned we can do all of these things on a Saturday morning. Following the 911 tour, we had lunch downtown and Sue conducted a very casual and short meeting.

Kathy Rice is doing a great job as Chaplain. She also keeps us informed about all the state functions. Minnesota may be small in numbers, but we sure are a busy group!

Hopefully, some of the gals can get to the state membership meeting. Maybe it will still be a beautiful leaf ride way over to Minnetonka, MN.

The Style Show is a must for many Alpha Chi gals. We look forward to

this fall outing and bring many guests. I think some in our group have a reputation for being big winners!

We continue to cut coupons and make many donations to various charities. Phyllis Frascone’s husband had some very serious surgery, so please keep him in your prayers. My number of great grandchildren has risen to five with the birth of Nora Therese. Any halls for rent at Christmas time?

Our next meeting is set for 11/09 at Joane’s home and hopefully we will have some good news about expanding. I’m talking about our numbers and not our waist lines.

Alpha Lambda—Pat Schwope

We have had some unfortunate health problems within our chapter this month -- both Mary Parr and Pat Schwope have been in and out of the Emergency Room and the hospital.

Stephanie Davis and Kate Sala attended the October 31st State Board Meeting: Stephanie wearing a witch costume, and Kate wearing a cat costume.

The biggest news this month is from Stephanie. She writes:

I spent 2 days in October helping my sister with her website and learned an amazing amount about how to sell products online.

Other than that, I’m spending a lot of time knitting to accomplish my goal of completing 7 sweaters this year (one for each of my nieces and nephews).

All the sweaters are wool (worsted or heavy worsted) pullovers, but a couple of different types (all to be hand washed though). Last year at Thanksgiving I asked them (2 boys, 5 girls) if

they would wear a sweater if I knit them one. They all said yes. The big caveat was that they would have to pick from yarn that I already owned. So far, 3 down and one in the works, and 3 to go.

- Holly (8 years old) picked purple (kettle-dyed, so some subtle color shifts) - turned out great!
- Samantha (13 years old) - picked a variegated yarn that is mostly brown, with rust and indigo sections).
- Penelope (5 years old) picked a bright red (also kettle-dyed). These 3 are done.

The remaining kids had to pick multiple colors (not enough of any one yarn to make sweaters out of a single color).

- Jessica picked out 8 shades of purple and pink (I had a lot of those). I found a fun fair isle pattern with flowers, dogs and other patterns. The colorwork section on

the body is about 2/3rds done and is the 2nd most difficult knitting project I’ve taken on so far. I can only complete 3-4 rows before I have to put it down - it takes that much concentration with each row being different.

- Gretchen (11 years old) picked dark forest green (kettle-dyed) - main color, golden yellow (kettle-dyed) - will be 1/4 of sweater, and teal blue as an accent color. I will be casting this one on in the next day or two, so I can work on it when I have to put Jessie’s sweater down for a bit.
- Toby (10 years old) and Thor (7 years old) both picked shades of blue and brown. I’m not sure if they will be color blocks, stripes or some other way of combining the colors. Note: Holly and Toby are my sister’s kids, the other 5 are my brother’s.

Alpha Sigma—Shirley McGowan

....Come One, Come All.....
"SILENT AUCTION, LUNCH-EON, and STYLE SHOW" on Saturday November 14th. It's coming fast! This Special Event is taking place at the"

**Sheraton Minneapolis West
12201 Ridgedale Drive
Minnetonka 55305**

We are so excited because our models will be showing off lovely outfits from "Chico's".

PLEASE Reserve your Ticket "Reservations" by November 7th. Don't miss out on a FUN Time!!

Rose and Jim Bitter have been getting away off and on over their summer. There was a Family Reunion in Iowa, and they got to see some cousins too. Their 5 day trip in Virginia was quite a rainy visit. They were so happy to hear when they were there that their son Andy and his wife are expecting a little baby girl in March. Lots of Smiles.....= a Granddaughter. They've been going out to dinner, and seeing friends. Jim and Rose just got back

after closing up their lake cabin for the winter.

Sharon Lange has been enjoying going out to dinner with her Niece Angela who is from Wisconsin/Taylor Falls. She will be coming into town this week, and will be dropping off some donations at Sharon's for our upcoming Auction. Sharon is going to her Bible Study classes at St. John's one night a week, and they are studying Women of the Old Testament. She did an amazing job ripping 8000 tickets apart for our Silent Auction. A good job done.

Shirley Laue's birthday was at the end of August. She and Herman were very sad after losing their very much loved horse, Misty. The end of August they went to Hibbing. She went with a girlfriend to see her older sister and niece in Washington at the end of September. Shirley has some lovely pictures of the mountains. They got to do some hiking, and the touring was gorgeous. Diane Vanusek's birthday was August 1st and Don's birthday was the beginning of October. At the St. John's Fall Festival this year, Diane won a pretty quilt. Door County was one of their visits this summer. Towards the end of September, she and Don went to Michigan on a Leaf Tour, and did some

sightseeing. Diane just got back from some time in Fargo.

Birdie and Diane had a good time at MARC Conference in Omaha.

Birdie went on a fun outing to an Orchard, and bought some apples and cheeses. Over one of the weekends at the end of September, she and her friend Judy went to the Lanesboro/Harmony area to take pictures. Birdie sure has been doing lots of driving all over the place: to St Paul, and even to Big Lake--- picking up donations for our Silent Auction on November 14th. Shirley McGowan's birthday was on October 9th, and she was taken out for supper by her kids. Her granddaughter settled in nicely in Waverly, Iowa at Wartburg College. Shirley plays board games, cards, bingo, and volunteers during the week. She has been to the Minneapolis Farmer's Market a couple times this summer. She and Birdie went on a bus trip for a few hours to the Mall of America to see the Sea World Aquarium.

Rose and Birdie were a couple of the winners at the Gamma Omega's "Cheers For The Troops" today at the Palmer Lake VFW. It looks like it was a Success!

Beta Sigma—Linda Schultz

Here we are turning the page of the calendar to welcome a new month as we approach the coming holiday season.

In keeping with Beta Sigma's "Busy Bees" theme for this year, I thought you might be interested in knowing just what bees do at this time of year in these cold northern climes.

Honeybee colonies are very much alive during the winter in Minnesota. After a busy summer of foraging for pollen and nectar, the bees have amassed a large store of honey and pollen that they set aside specifically for their winter survival. Every colony consists of

one queen, the mother of all bees, worker bees (females) and drones (males). In the early fall, the queen will slowly taper off her egg-laying and by late October, she stops laying eggs altogether. By that time, the worker bees, not wanting to share their food, have kicked out all of the non-productive bees – the drones. No room for couch potatoes, and for the next few months, the hive is an all-girls club.

When the temperature outside starts to dip below 57°F, inside the hive, the bees will begin to cluster together into one large mass with the queen in the middle. They will take turns moving from the center to the outside of the cluster to assure that everyone gets

their fair share of warmth. They generate heat by shivering their wings so the temperature within the cluster will remain between 60° - 80°F.

Just imagine the degree of cooperation and organization required for these bees to stay alive and survive this incredible weather. We think of bees as being a summertime necessary and valued creature making the continuation of life for all of us possible.

Every year at this time, local raw but filtered honey is made available to Beta Sigma as a mini-fundraiser for the chapter. The bees that produce this honey are considered local and are housed in hives located in acres and acres of organic pastureland. The

Beta Sigma—continued

more I learn about our local bees, the more I appreciate the incredible gift of their honey.

As I participate in the many “busy bees” activities of Beta Sigma, my appreciation and gratitude for our particular Bee Sisters grows.

The first Saturday of October, our own Queen Bee, Leann, led our chapter in a buzzing engagement of plans for the coming winter months. Our “bee gathering” was hosted by Eileen Spencer and co-hosted by Judy Searles. The array of fabulous foods, constituting a full brunch, would have been a feast even for bees of the field.

New membership will be one of the major focuses for our chapter and will begin with heightened “buzzing” of organization and energy at the Bake Sale and Craft Fair on the 7th at Mary Mother of the Church in Burnsville. Our own Jackie Swanson is the leader for this recruiting endeavor, and as

always brings her own special energy to the “colony’s” goal. We will display ESA flyers, cards; and, those bees working at the event will wear ESA clothing, “Ask Me About ESA” pins, and be ready to answer questions, invite interested possible “Bee” members to the next event and/or meeting.

Some of our Bees were gallivanting about the countryside this past month. Pat Oman and her husband, Gary, traveled to Michigan where Gary’s brother, Steve, was inducted into the Eskymo Football Wall of Fame in Escanaba, Michigan. This is quite an honor. They also attended the football game that night with most of his children and grandchildren. They also visited the Iron Mountain Iron Mine where Gary’s grandparents had worked.

Jackie also traveled to Michigan, but as I write this I do not have any details to report. Bonnie also traveled to Michigan in October.... wow! I will do my best to capture some interesting things about both those trips (and any

I may have overlooked) to report later. Michigan has been a popular destination!

Celebrations have happened for: the August 23rd birth of Judy Searles first grandchild, Emily Elizabeth. Yes, Judy traveled to Clarendon Hills, IL where her daughter, new mom Jessica and new dad Tom live. Judy also traveled to Lincoln, NE, in September for the wedding of her niece, Allison.

Let’s celebrate Marcie’s ESA birthday on October 1st; Judy’s birthday on October 7th; Jackie’s birthday on October 12th; and Betty’s birthday on October 20th. I wonder how each of these Bees spent their special day? Tell you what ~ I will investigate that and report next time. I already know one but will wait to tell you. It was something really special.

Time to go buzzing around for other nectar..... bee sweet, bee vigilant for ways to create honey in some one’s life and bee happy!

Delta Mu—Terri Olson

We had our first meeting of the year and what fun we had! This month we decided to meet at Buca di Peppo in Maple Grove. One of our newest members, Linda, was able to attend and Julene brought a guest, Deb. We laughed and ate, and ate, and ate! There was so much food left over, there was enough for everyone to take home meals for another night! We also were shocked to figure out that we actually could finish off a great big bottle of wine!

We talked a lot about ESA and what the organization does, how our chapter functions and what we do. We all shared so many memories with Linda and Deb and how much fun we’ve had doing good things for others.

We started thinking about our next meeting/adventure and Linda took on the task of making the arrangements.

We’re going to do our usual going-out-to-dinner meeting and

adding an educational too. We’re going to see “The Realish Housewives of Edina” so we’ll have to tell you about that excitement next month.

Oh, and not to be forgotten, Deb had such a great time with us and also volunteered at the Fall Festival of Hope. And, guess what?!? We have another new member. Please welcome Deb Rotering to our fold.. We’ll gather contact information out soon.

We hope you enjoyed the Membership meeting on Halloween. I’m sorry I couldn’t be there to see all of the fun costumes that were worn. I was in Little Rock for the SERC conference, my first one; it was a lot of fun.

I flew in a day early and had the fun opportunity to spend the day with Ann Becker (she was originally from Minnesota; I was her Corresponding Secretary when she was MN state president in 1979-80). Ann volunteers leading tours at Garven Gardens in Hot Springs, so we had our own personal tour guide for the day. It was a beautiful place! From there, she took us to downtown Hot Springs where we got to

visit the Fat Bottomed Girls cupcake shop which was featured on the TV show, Cupcake Wars. They were yummy! Then we toured the Ohio Hotel which was a speakeasy owned by Al Capone. Mae West even bartended there at one time! Ann also gave us a tour of her beautiful home; so much fun walking down memory lane with her.

I learned a few ideas from the SERC conference that we might want to consider implementing at the MARC conference next year regarding seating. I’ll share it with you when we have our first meeting to talk about planning the upcoming MARC conference. See the MARC article later in this issue.

Hope to see you all at the St. Jude Style Show/silent Auction; it’s always such a good, fun time. Don’t forget to get your reservations in; I don’t think you’ll want to miss it!

IC Convention 2016—Bobbie Massey

Embassy Suites Loveland - Hotel, Spa and Conference Center

Plan to spend the week of July 10-17, 2016 at the Embassy Suites Loveland - Hotel, Spa and Conference Center, 4705 Clydesdale Pkwy, Loveland, CO 80538. This is our award-winning hotel for the 2016 IC Convention.

Expect spacious suites, featuring a private bedroom and separate living room, with a wet bar, mini-refrigerator, microwave and coffeemaker. Each suite features two queen or one king bed and a pullout sofa sleeper. Savor the complimentary cooked-to-order breakfast as well as an evening reception with free drinks. Other hotel amenities include free parking and a complimentary shuttle within a five-mile radius of the hotel. There is a 50% discount in the suites for Wi-Fi or free if you are a current Hilton Honor's Member. You must have stayed at a Hilton in the last year. Wi-Fi is complimentary in the hotel's lobby and business center.

Room rates are \$144.00 plus tax single/double; \$154.00 plus tax triple, \$169.00 plus tax quad. \$15.00 plus tax for each additional person (current tax rate is 9.55%) Rates are good July 9 through July 18, 2016. To receive the group rate, you MUST make reservations by **June 18, 2016**. Call **1 800 EMBASSY. (1-800-362-2779) Ask for the ESA block with booking code EPS**. Should you experience any difficulty in making your reservation, please email Ann Marie Cole at annmarie.cole@jqh.com with your name, confirmation number and the issue you are experiencing. She will work with hotel personnel to find a solution for you.

2016 IC Convention Committee

MARC Conference 2016—Terri Olson

There is a set rotation for hosting the MARC Conferences and 2016 is the "lucky" year for Minnesota to act as host. As you know, we have two new states that have joined MARC now, Oklahoma and Kansas. They are being slotted in at the end of the rotation. The rotation list is in MARC's Standing Rules.

As you know the MARC Committee selected the Embassy Suites in Bloomington, MN where we held last year's State Convention. They are a great hotel to work with and we are anticipating no problems.

Without advance notice, Julene and I were asked to make a presentation at this year's MARC Conference. So, in the wee hours of the night we came up with the theme, "Mystique of the Aurora Borealis". I think that will be a pretty easy theme to work with since it really exemplifies Minnesota, don't you think?

This year's Conference was the first year to have all 12 states represented; there was a total of 142 attendees counting members and guests.

- Diane Vanusek will be working as the Treasurer for the 2016 Conference, Birdie will be the Registration Chair so they can easily pass money since they're in the same chapter.
- Kate Sala will be handling the func-

tions since she's got the expertise from acting in that capacity when we hosted the IC Convention.

I was thinking we could make this Conference easy on ourselves by simply using the hotel's centerpieces, but if you don't agree, we can figure that out.

Just so you know, the MARC budget does not provide for any costs, not even for speakers. It is suggested that all expenses outside of meal costs be garnered for free! If there's a cost for anything, it must be included in the registration. So, you can see that if we want to have a speaker that charges a fee, that would be a separate cost. Typically, speakers are scheduled for the Friday Leadership Day and there is usually a charge on the registration specifically for that day.

Meal costs are high at hotels, as you know, since they typically include a tax as well as service charge of 23%. We will do our best to try to keep costs down.

Julene and I are acting as your chairs for the Conference, but by no means are we discounting the value that you, our members, bring to the table. And, so in that vein, I'd like to schedule a meeting to discuss how we are going to proceed. I'll schedule an initial meeting at the hotel so anyone who'd like to come will be able to see the meeting room that we'll be using. And, then

from that point on, we'll schedule regular meeting so that we'll all be informed and ready to go for the Conference next October 9-11, 2016.

Before we get together though, I think it's imperative to have the information from this year's conference held in Omaha, Nebraska so that we are better educated as to the types of things we definitely need to do. I don't have the information yet, so I'd like to hold off on our getting together until I receive it. Hopefully, that will be soon; I'll be in touch with Dora Dill (this year's chair) to see if there's an estimated timeframe to receive it.

Many of the Chairs for things that go on during the Conference are led by folks that are appointed by the MARC President, which is Kim Mandrell. So, we'll be getting feedback from Kim as well as some of her Chairpersons as to what they might like to see/do at the Conference.

Once we have more information, it'll be easier to figure out what additional Chairmen we might need as well as things we'll need to do. So, please be patient, meetings will definitely be open to anyone who might be interested in attending.

If you have any feedback for me or Julene, please let us know.



2016 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
"REACHING NEW HEIGHTS IN ESA"
 July 10 - 17, 2016
Embassy Suites Loveland - Hotel, Spa and Conference Center
 4705 Clydesdale Pkwy, Loveland, CO 80538
 970-593-6200 (local) or 1-800-362-2779 (reservations)



MEMBER NAME _____ MEMBER NUMBER/STATE _____ / _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____ EMAIL _____

CHAPTER NAME _____ CHAPTER # _____ STATE COUNCIL _____

DATE OF ARRIVAL _____ TIME OF ARRIVAL _____ FLY/ DRIVE USING SCOOTER Y/N

ROOMMATE(S) _____

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

- First IC Convention Pledge Collegiate Member - Campus _____ HQ Staff
- ESA Foundation Board IC Elected/Appointed Board Past IC President (yr) _____
- 2015-2016 State President - State _____ 2016-2017 State President - State _____
- Previous State President - State(s)/Year(s) _____ Served with: _____
- I will be recognized at convention for my years of ESA Service: 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70
- Medical Food Allergy: The hotel will do its best to accommodate **MEDICAL Food Allergy** requests only.
 Allergy alert for _____ (Additional costs may apply.)

		<u>CIRCLE AMOUNT</u>
MEMBER FULL REGISTRATION FEE:	<input type="checkbox"/> Postmarked prior to May 1, 2016	<u>250</u>
Includes general assemblies, workshops, welcome party, recognition luncheon and banquet	<input type="checkbox"/> Postmarked May 1 - June 1, 2016	<u>275</u>
	<input type="checkbox"/> After June 1, 2016 (see note on payment*)	<u>275</u>
MEMBER FRI & SAT REGISTRATION FEE:	<input type="checkbox"/> Postmarked prior to May 1, 2016	<u>225</u>
Includes general assemblies, recognition luncheon and banquet	<input type="checkbox"/> Postmarked May 1 - June 1, 2016	<u>250</u>
	<input type="checkbox"/> After June 1, 2016 (see note on payment*)	<u>250</u>
MEMBERSAT REGISTRATION FEE	<input type="checkbox"/> Postmarked prior to May 1, 2016	<u>125</u>
Includes general assembly and banquet	<input type="checkbox"/> Postmarked May 1 - June 1, 2016	<u>150</u>
	<input type="checkbox"/> After June 1, 2016 (see note on payment*)	<u>150</u>
MEMBER WALK-IN REGISTRATION FEE:	<input type="checkbox"/> (See note on payment*)	<u>300</u>
Includes everything in full registration		
PICP NO-HOST LUNCHEON (all past and present state presidents/IC presidents)		<u>40</u>
If served with multiple presidents, indicate with whom you wish to sit? _____		
SUBTOTAL MEMBER REGISTRATION:		_____

CONVENTION HOTEL ROOM RATES

Room Rates are \$144.00 plus tax single/double; \$154.00 plus tax triple, \$169.00 plus tax quad.
 \$15.00 plus tax for each additional person (current tax rate is 9.55%)
 To receive the group rate, you **MUST** make reservations by **June 18, 2016**
 Call 1-800 EMBASSY (1-800-362-2779) You **MUST** Ask for the **ESA Block with Booking Code EPS.**


 EPSILON SIGMA ALPHA
**32ND ANNUAL STYLE SHOW,
 LUNCHEON AND SILENT AUCTION**



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2015

Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel
12201 Ridgedale Drive
Minnetonka MN 55305



Auction 10:00 am
Program 11:40 am
Luncheon 12:15 pm
Style Show 1:00 pm
(Auction winners announced between events.)

Adult ticket \$27

Chicken/walnut/craisin salad, fresh baked rolls, dessert & coffee

Child ticket \$15 (ages 3-10 years)

Chicken fingers, tator tots, cookies & milk

Name _____ Chapter _____

Guest Name _____ (indicate if child)

Guest Name _____ (indicate if child)

(Tables of 8-10 available. If dietary restrictions, please let us know.)

******RESERVE YOUR TICKETS BY NOVEMBER 7, 2015******

Make checks payable to Alpha Sigma

Rose Bitter, 7438 Hames Way, Eden Prairie MN 55346
Call 952-937-8563 with questions or email rosebitter@msn.com



Think
Spring

**2016 MN ESA State Convention
May 13 - 14, 2016**

Hilton Garden Inn
1050 Gramsie Road
Shoreview, MN 55126
651-415-1956

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2016

Late Registration: after April 29 + \$10.00 / Walk-in Registration – Cash Only +\$20.00

NAME:		CHAPTER:		DELEGATE:	NO	YES
ADDRESS:			PLEDGE:		1 ST TIME ATTENDEE:	
CTY/ST/ZIP			PHONE:			
GUEST NAME:						

Guests are invited to attend all functions/meetings at this year's Convention!

FULL REGISTRATION	COST	MEMBER	GUEST
(Includes: registration fee, Friday night dinner, Saturday lunch and banquet)	\$120.00		
BANQUET: (select one)			
Chicken Parmesan, house salad, baby red potatoes, and green beans			
Marinated Beef Tips, house salad, baby red potatoes, and green beans			
PARTIAL REGISTRATION (check all that apply)	COST	MEMBER	GUEST
REGISTRATION FEE (REQUIRED FOR ALL EXCEPT "BANQUET ONLY" GUESTS)	\$15.00		
FRIDAY EVENING (Baked potato bar with garden salad):	\$31.00		
SATURDAY LUNCHEON (Soup & salad bar):	\$26.00		
BANQUEST (select one):			
Chicken Parmesan, house salad, baby red potatoes, and green beans	\$48.00		
Marinated Beef Tips, house salad, baby red, potatoes, and green beans			
PARTIAL REGISTRATION TOTAL:			
ATTENDING MEETINGS ONLY (NO MEALS)-ROOM COST	COST	MEMBER	GUEST
MEETING ONLY – NO MEALS	\$15.00		

Medical Dietary Needs: _____

ROOM RESERVATIONS: Reservations can be made online or by calling the hotel at 651-415-1956 (reference **ESA room block**). The room block group rate will be held until **April 13, 2016**. Room Rates are: \$99 for single king or \$109 for double queen or king suite plus tax.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Gamma Zeta **QUESTIONS:** Dianne Ocel 763-788-5837 jerryocel@aol.com
MAIL FORM AND CHECK TO: Dianne Ocel, 13143 Aberdeen St., Blaine, MN

