

ESA'LY YOURS

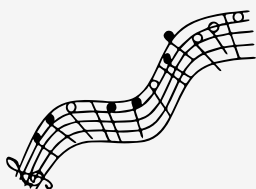
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International Council



PRESIDENT - MISTY EVANS

Yay - Spring is in the air! 2024 has started off with a bang and its hard to believe that we are approaching summer and the ISC Convention! My time as ISC President is quickly coming to an end even though it feels like it just began.....a short 2 years ago!



President's Report - Continued

As Kerry shared with those in attendance at the Spring Gathering this past weekend in Quincy, membership is a HOT topic within ESA. The numbers are steadily declining and our future does not look good as an organization. This isn't only at the IC level, but we are seeing this at the state level with chapters members not being actively involved outside of their community. Be thinking about what we can do to get the new members involved and how we can get our chapters actively recruiting so that we can continue our mission!

There are some appointed positions left to fill on Kerry's board and she is still seeking a Recording Secretary. Some of these positions are very simple with just collecting chapter forms, figuring out the award winners and submitting the state details to IC. It's an easy way to get your toes wet and help out of State Council!

Make plans to join us at the ISC Convention June 7-8 in Effingham for "ESA Presents Grease" hosted by Omega Nu! I am looking forward to the Friday night mixer where we can gather in our jammies! Keep Rockin' Away in ESA until next time,

Misty 



EXECUTIVE OFFICERS



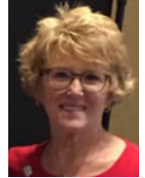
President
Misty Evans
mistyevas2021@gmail.com



President - Elect
Kerry Considine
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Corresponding Secretary



Recording Secretary
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Kathleen Grissom
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Parliamentarian
Celeste Webb
webbfam@consolidated.net



Treasurer
Jamie Atchison
jamiea2@gmail.com



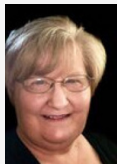
Workshop Coordinator
Natasha Hershey
mrshershey09@gmail.com



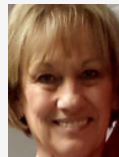
Past President/Disaster Fund Chair
Adrian Spurduto
aesperd@yahoo.com



APPOINTED BOARD/COMMITTEES



Awards Director
Jill Shull
jillshull@gmail.com



Chaplain
Jo Grafton
jografton@yahoo.com



ESA for St Jude Chair
Suzi Coffman
bellonona@gmail.com



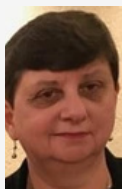
Collegiate Chair
Adrian Sperduto
aesperd@yahoo.com



Easterseals Chair
Susan Nichols
sknichols10@gmail.com



Educational Director
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ESA Foundation Counselor
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tubeone@comcast.net



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esalyyours@gmail.com



Historian
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esarawlings@gmail.com



Hope for Heroes Chair
Leann Polston
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MARC Representative
Kathleen Grissom
tomkat31953@gmail.com



MARC Representative
Judy Huntley
jhun13@sbcglobal.net



Philanthropic/State Project Chair
Dalena Hall
rickhall@consolidated.net



Publicity/Social Chair
Amanda Tullis
mandat3@gmail.com



Webmaster
Jamie Atchison
jamiea2@gmail.com



Audit Committee
Vickie Reible
mandat3@gmail.com

APPOINTED BOARD/ COMMITTEES - CONT'D



Budget & Finance Chair
Jamie Atchison
jamiea2@gmail.com



Budget & Finance Committee
Michelle Skinlo
michelleskinlo@consolidated.net



Membership/Nominating Chair
Kerry Considine
kconsi17@gmail.com





Kerry Considine
Vice President



Happy Spring Illinois State ESAers!

It's been a busy beginning of the year, so much to do! I enjoyed attending Leadership in Denver, Colorado with my fellow future state presidents, IC board members, ESA Headquarters staff and a sprinkle of other members. Much was learned, shared, and discussed. Membership is a hot topic right now as ESA is struggling with dwindling membership and our future is looking challenging. One of the popular sessions of Leadership was a members panel that discussed several topics related to recruiting new members, transforming collegiate members to community members, keeping current members interested, dues costs, and sharing projects & events. You can catch a recap of the panel questions and answers weekly on the Facebook "ESA Membership Ideas" group. If you're not a member of the group, just request to join and answer 2 simple security questions—what chapter do you belong to and your membership number. I hope to see you on the site soon!

A big thank you to Maria Bingheim and her helpers for a wonderful Spring Gathering. It was so nice to catch up with members from throughout the state. We made Easter cards for Veterans who are residents in the Veterans home in Quincy, socialized with those not seen too often, learned lots of information on the Veterans home, had a potato bar for lunch, and had a productive business meeting led by Misty.

With the passing of the gavel coming up in June, I'm sad to report I received zero nominations for offices. I've reached out to many and received lots of no's so I still don't have a full slate of elected or appointed offices. We are in desperate need for a Recording Secretary on the executive board, an ESA'ly Yours Editor, and various chairs. Please consider volunteering for an office or think about people in your chapter to nominate for an office, sometimes people need to be reminded of their worth! I will continue to reach out to members and chapters to fill empty positions. As we all know, it takes many hands to make light work. Let's put our helping hands together to make the ISC successful and lighter work for us all!

Founders Day is coming up May 2nd, ESA is celebrating 95 years with a Zoom event to celebrate! If you have any new members to be pinned they can be part of the celebration ceremony for all to see!! Thursday, May 2nd, at 6:30, register at the ESA website for the Zoom link.

I hope to see you all at the Illinois State Convention June 7th & 8th at the Effingham Holiday Inn for "ESA Presents Grease!"

Kerry Considine
ISC President-Elect



GREASE

<https://www.esa-illinois.org>



Jamie Atchison
Treasurer



100% of Illinois State Council Chapters are paid!! We have 11 paid chapters consisting of 219 members plus 5 Members At Large!

I'm getting ready to send in our state council donations to Camp New Home, Easterseals, ESA Disaster Fund, ESA Foundation IL State Council Charles B. Atchison and the Leora Walton endowments, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital - totaling \$3000!

Any officer or appointed chair that has bills, please send to me with expense vouchers by May 25, 2024. Additionally, I'm also working on the 2024-2025 proposed budget, if you have suggestions please let me know, as it will be voted on at state convention and sent out prior for your review.

Lastly, I wanted to thank President Misty for the opportunity to serve on her board 2022-2024, it has been a pleasure to work with her and board! Looking forward to seeing many of you at the state conference in June!

Jamie 



Jamie Atchison
Webmaster



2011-2012 IL State Council President Carol "Pinky" Oppenheimer asked me to create a website and www.esa-illinois.org was born!! Except for very few of the last 13 years, I have been webmaster, including daily posts on a top fans Epsilon Sigma Alpha - Illinois State Council Facebook page, as the 'proverb' that dates back to 1374 from Geoffrey Chaucer goes, "everything comes to an end." It has been truly a learning process and evolved over the years as we decided to go paperless...I appreciate all those who have contributed to the website and sent feedback and content for the last 13 years, I know I'm leaving it in good hands for the future.

Also please note: all the forms are up to date including the Philanthropic form with the mileage rate of \$0.655, all are due May 10th unless otherwise noted. Please note Easterseals Chair Sharon Nichols would like that one on May 1 as it's due to the International Council Chair by May 15th.



ESA Foundation Counselor



In January, the Board elected this year's officers: Kim Mandrell, Chairman, Ann Southall, Vice Chairman, Patricia Howerton, Secretary, and Gordon Leong, Treasurer. Foundation Directors fill a variety of Chairmanships, many of whom you will see authoring articles in this and future newsletters.

The Endowment Chairman has transitioned from Terrie to Judi King. Judi is a longtime supporter of the Foundation and has also extensive ESA IC Council experience, including being a past International Council President. She is looking forward to working with the Foundation's endowers. Please direct any endowment questions to Judi.

Kathy Loyd continues to be the Scholarship Chairman. It's a busy time of year, as the season closed on February 1st, and Kathy and her committee are busy with reviewing applications and determining this year's winners.

Even though Rosalie Griffith is not a Director this year, she is continuing as the Grants Chairman. She is looking forward to sharing details of the grant recipients in the coming year.

ESA FOUNDATION

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS TO BE HELD THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2024 FROM 2:00 – 3:30 PM IN OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ESA FOUNDATION:

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the members of the ESA Foundation will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Kansas City – Overland Park, Kansas on Thursday, July 11, 2024, from 2:00 to 3:30 PM for the purpose of conducting ESA Foundation business that is deemed necessary.

*All members whose dues have been received by the ESA Headquarters office by December 31, 2023 are entitled to vote. The ballots for chapters, councils, and other ESA entities will be sent to the entity's President on file with ESA Headquarters. All non-ESA entity proxy ballots along with all member and ESA entity ballots will be sent to the current email address on file with ESA Headquarters. **Please contact ESA Headquarters to update your email address and your entity's President's information prior to Aug 1, 2024.***

At this time, no voting is anticipated for the Annual Membership meeting. Voting for new Director candidates is planned for December 2024. Additional voting information will be sent closer to that time.





ESA Foundation Counselor - Continued

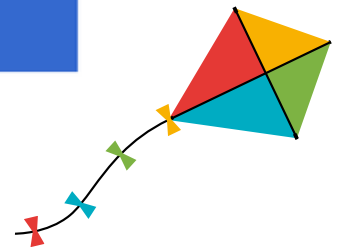
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The nomination form for the ESA Foundation Directors is now posted for the term of 2025-2028. Three directors will be elected, each for a three-year term. Eight directors are responsible for carrying out the various programs of the ESA Foundation and planning its future. Each Director brings his/her own unique experience and qualifications. A candidate must be an enthusiastic, active, dedicated individual member of the ESA Foundation interested in helping the Foundation remain a strong and viable part of ESA. The nomination form and official call for nominations are available at <https://epsilonsigmaalpha.org/about/ESAFoundation>, (click on the link in the Stay Up to Date section.) Deadline for nominations is October 1, 2024. If you have any questions feel free to contact me or one of the other Directors. Please submit completed forms to:
Ann Southall ESA Foundation Vice Chairman 915 Hazelhurst St. El Dorado, AR 71730
asouth_51@yahoo.com 870-814-9024

VOTING AND CREDENTIALS INFORMATION

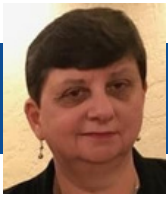
Voting for ESA Foundation elections will be held electronically. To be sure you receive your ballot, your current email address must be on file. To check your email address, go to the ESA website (<https://epsilonsigmaalpha.org>), log into the member center, and check the address on your profile. Votes for chapters, councils, and other entities will be sent to the email address of the person listed as President for that chapter/entity.

Members who have opted to not receive emails from the ESA Foundation, and who want to receive a ballot, should contact ESA Headquarters and provide an active email address.



MISSION

Established in 1970, the ESA Foundation is dedicated to the promotion of continuing education and to altruistic activities that make a positive difference in the world community. Voluntary contributions of time and money from ESA members, ESA Foundation members, and friends of the Foundation are the ESA Foundation's sole sources of support. As a nonprofit, tax exempt corporation, the ESA Foundation supports the service and leadership programs and the philanthropic projects of Epsilon Sigma Alpha International.



ESA Foundation Counselor - Continued

If you are unsure if you are eligible to vote, please contact your Foundation Counselor or the ESA Vice-Chairman, Ann Southall, asouth_51@yahoo.com.

For assistance updating your email address, please contact ESA Headquarters at 970-223-2824 or email esainfo@epsilonsigmaalpha.org.

Ann Southall
Vice Chairman

This year the **Foundation Fund Fest** is being co-chaired by Patrica Howerton and Tammy Akines. We are looking forward to seeing many of you at the Fund Fest at IC Convention in Kansas in July. Speaking of the **Fundfest**—it was decided at the Spring Gathering that Illinois would donate a wine basket this year. Each chapter is asked to bring a bottle of wine—preferably one from an Illinois Winery to our ISC Convention in June. I will then transport the Wine Basket to IC Convention in Overland Park, Kansas in July.

Many volunteers are needed to make this event successful. Your help is essential. Please consider signing up to be a special part of the evening. It's easy - send a message with your email address and phone number to - esaffundfest@gmail.com.

Patricia Howerton and Tammy Akines, Co-chairs

ESAF Career Enhancement Grant Recipient

Congratulations to Mona Quaid Johnston! Mona is a 40-year ESA member and is from Wilburton, Oklahoma. Mona recently received a Career Enhancement Grant for EMDR training in rural Southeast Oklahoma. As a Licensed Professional Counselor, Mona offers services to a variety of clients who have undergone trauma. Children who have suffered trauma, adolescents, adults, and recently the need has arisen to offer training to "First Responders" for trauma they have witnessed.

Mona received a call from the Latimer County Sheriff and was asked if she would be willing to have therapy sessions with his First Responders who had 'worked' a teen suicide.

Of course, the answer was yes, and she had the opportunity to help these First Responders who were First on the Scene. As they described their involvement, her mind went to the needs of others in her community that the EMDR training would benefit from due to the trauma these young men had undergone.





ESA Foundation Counselor - Continued

Mona realized the need for this training did not only come from this need, but also for others who have been traumatized especially children who have been abused, mostly by parents, and have been placed in Guardianship Placement. EMDR stands for Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing. It is very common around the world and is based on how your brain stores and retrieves trauma memories.

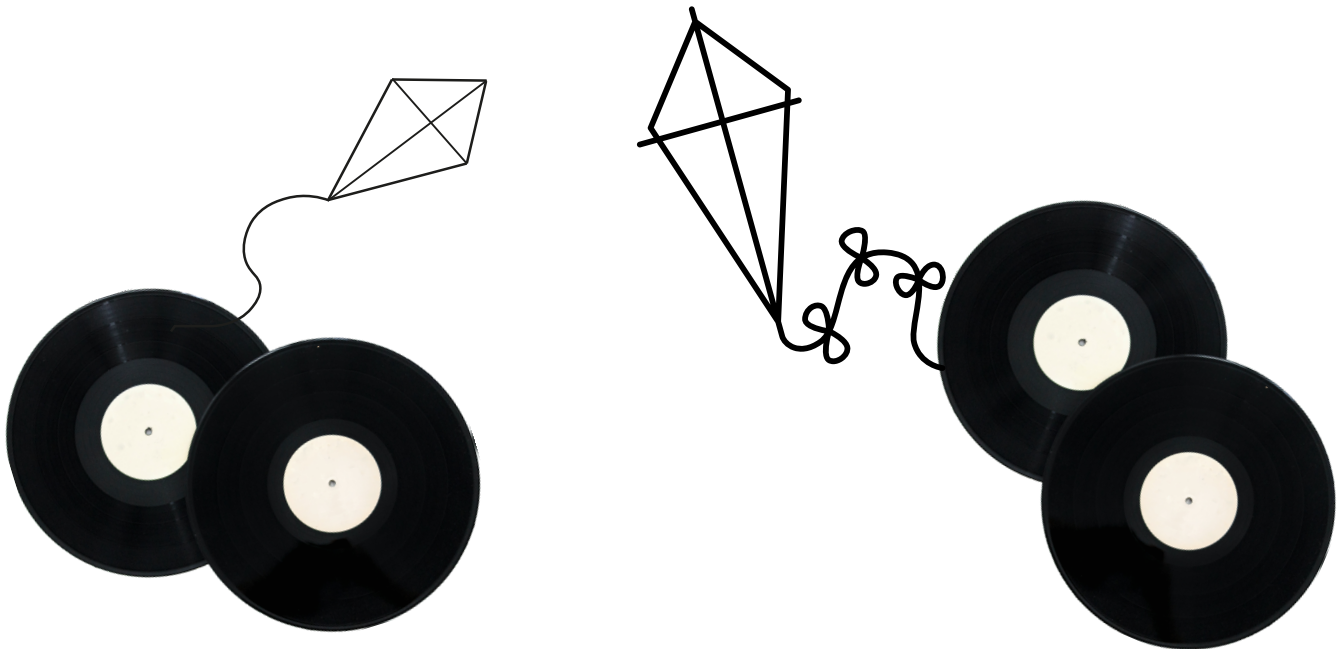
EMDR is used by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense as a 'best practice' in treating veterans with PTSD. It is also approved by the World Health Organization.

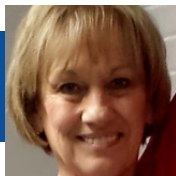
Rosalie Griffith
Grants Chairman

If you have any questions about any of the ESA Foundation programs or about your status to vote, please contact me.

I hope to see many of you in Effingham in June for the ISC State Convention.

Maria Bingheim
ESA Foundation Counselor
tubaone@comcast.net





Illinois State Council Convention 2024

The Illinois State Convention will be June 7 and 8, 2024 at the Holiday Inn, in Effingham. We are in the planning stages but have some great things in the works. It will be a fun weekend full of learning and spending time with other ESA Members. We have room rates and reservations can be made by calling 217-540-7777. Indicating the date(s) of stay and group code ESA to receive the discounted room rate and be attached to the ESA group. The 2024 rate is \$139 plus tax per standard room or \$165 plus tax per suite room. Look for final details and registration in the next ESA'ly Yours. Make plans NOW to attend the Illinois State Convention.

Your Convention Chairpersons – Celeste Webb, Jo Grafton, and Dalena Hall with the help of Omega Nu Chapter!

*I solve my problems, and I see the light
We got a lovin' thing, we gotta feed it right
There ain't no danger we can go too far
We start believing now that we can be who we are
Grease is the word*

*They think our love is just a growing pain
Why don't they understand, it's just a crying shame
Their lips are lying, only real is real
We stop the fight right now, we got to be what we feel
Grease is the word*

*(Grease is the word, is the word that you heard)
It's got a groove, it's got a meaning
Grease is the time, is the place, is the motion
Grease is the way we are feeling*

*We take the pressure and we throw away
Conventionality belongs to yesterday
There is a chance that we can make it so far
We start believing now that we can be who we are
Grease is the word*

*(Grease is the word, is the word that you heard)
It's got a groove, it's got a meaning
Grease is the time, is the place, is the motion
Now, grease is the way we are feeling*

*This is a life of illusion
Wrapped up in trouble
Laced with confusion
What we doing here?*

*We take the pressure and we throw away
Conventionality belongs to yesterday
There is a chance that we can make it so far
We start believing now that we can be who we are
Grease is the word*

*(Grease is the word, is the word that you heard)
It's got a groove, it's got a meaning
Grease is the time, is the place, is the motion
Now, grease is the way we are feeling*



ESA PrESentS "GrEASE"

ESA Illinois State Convention June 7 and 8, 2024

Holiday Inn 1301 Ave. of Mid America Effingham. IL

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City State Zip _____

Chapter Name and Number _____



Please check all that apply:

IL. State Council Executive Board Officer *

Out of State ESA Member

IL. State Council Appointed Officer **

Name of State _____

Usterwuzzer

Other Guests:

Pledge

1. _____

Member at Large

2. _____

First Time Attendee

3. _____

Chapter Voting Delegate

4. _____

General Member

Full registration paid by Illinois State Council*(full registration only)

Deduct \$7.50 paid by Illinois State Council**(full registration only)

Please check Registration or individual events you want to attend.

Postmarked by Postmarked After Walk-In Registration

May 26, 2024 May 26, 2024 CASH ONLY

Full Registration \$125.00 \$140.00

Friday Night Mixer \$45.00 \$55.00

Saturday Awards Luncheon \$45.00 \$55.00

Saturday Night Banquet \$55.00 \$65.00

Medical Dietary Restrictions _____

Make Checks Payable to ESA Illinois State Convention

Amount of Check: _____ Check number: _____

Mail Checks and Registration to: Regina Considine Registration Co-Registration Chairperson, 3124 Oak. Mattoon, IL 619388. **Registrants are responsible for the costs of any return checks and bank fees. No refunds after June 1, 2024**



Philanthropic Awards

Philanthropic Report

It is time to fill out your Philanthropic report form which can be found on the Illinois ESA web page. This report along with most of the other state forms are due MAY 10th. It is so much easier than it used to be, so I expect to see my mailbox full! My address is 217 Hickory Lane, Mattoon, IL. 61938, If you have any questions about the report please don't hesitate to contact me.

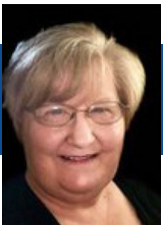
On a side note - we are hoping to have a record number of members at our state convention on June 7th and 8th, in Effingham. Our IC Rep is the International Council President, and our MARC Rep is Alley Gary. Let's show them how great the state of Illinois is! All information and registration is in this copy of the ESA'y Yours.

Dalena Hall, Philanthropic Chair



ESA Disaster Fund





Awards



Happy Spring to everyone!!

I am so excited to see all the Good Deeds that you have done in this past year. The Illinois State Council Convention on June 7-8 will be here before you know it. Will you join me at the Rockin' Away in ESA Awards Luncheon in our rendition of...

Hopelessly Devoted to You...ESA

So, please sing along with me...

Guess mine is not the first heart broken
My eyes are not the first to cry
If you do not get your chapter forms to me by May 10
I'm not the first to know
There's just no getting over you...ESA

I know I'm just a fool who's willing
To sit around and wait for you
To turn in your chapter forms to me by May 10
But baby, can't you see there's nothing else for me to do?
I'm hopelessly devoted to you...ESA

But now there's nowhere to hide
Since you pushed my love aside
There is nowhere to hide the forms but to send them to me by May 10
I'm out of my head
Hopelessly devoted to you...ESA

Hopelessly devoted to you...ESA
Hopelessly devoted to you...ESA

My head is sayin', "Fool, forget him"
My heart is sayin', "Don't let go
Don't let go of the Good Deed that you have done and send to me by May 10
Hold on to the end", that's what I intend to do
I'm hopelessly devoted to you...ESA

But now there's no way to hide
Since you pushed my love aside
There is nowhere to hide the forms but to send them to me by May 10
I'm outta my head
Hopelessly devoted to you...ESA

Jill Shull
2023 - 2024 Illinois State Council Awards Chair





ESA'y Yours Editor



This is my last issue as your editor of ESA'y Yours Newsletter. I hope you have enjoyed the issues.

Enjoy Spring!!



Issue Dates:
08/25/2024
10/25/2024
01/25/2025
03/25/2025



Historian



If you haven't sent in your chapter's event and member pictures, please do so soon.

Besides ESA, faith, family and friends, my passions include scrapbooking, junk journaling, making cards and messing with mixed media. Grandkids' sports are the best, especially since I am retired!

"We're here for a reason. I believe that reason is to throw little torches out to lead people through the dark."

- Whoopi Goldberg





Alpha Alpha - Jamie Atchison

St. Jude Walk/Run - September 14, 2024

It's that time again...to join Team ESA, look for team captain Jamie Atchison...

https://fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/Walk/Walk?team_id=306189&pg=team&fr_id=155371

Whether you can do in person and virtual, we need you to help fund raise for the kids of St. Jude, we will be manning the Hospitality/VIP booth and cheering at the Start/Finish Line again this year! If you are coming to Bloomington, make your hotel room reservation for Friday, September 13 as our day will begin early on the 14th then we will have the Fall Gathering immediately following from 1 - 3pm at St. Luke Union Church in Bloomington, more details will be in the summer 2024 ESA'ly Yours!



St. Jude
walk/run

CHAPTER CHATTER



Alpha Upsilon - Kathy Brown

Happy Spring! Our Alpha Upsilon ladies have been planning and working on some project for this spring.

January 25th, we had our Social at the Knights of Columbus. A wonderful fun night of playing BINGO!! Hosted by Kathleen Grissom and Suzi Coffman. We had 8 members attend Linda Schilling, Kathy Brown, Kim Hanley, Zelda Underwood, Joyce Warner, Thelma Bowen, Paula Winchester and Kathleen Grissom she was taken the picture. Several of our ladies won playing.

February 20th was our Social hosted by Thelma Bowen and Linda Schilling at the home of Thelma. We played a dice game with good conversation and food.

March, we had election for new board members. President will now be Suzi Coffman, Vice President is Zelda Underwood, Treasurer will be Kathleen Grissom and Secretary is Kathy Brown. Our new members will be installed at our Spring Banquet in April.

We have many events coming up in April and May. So, everyone enjoys the warm weather. More news to come next time. 😊



CHAPTER CHATTER



Beta Mu - Barb Warmoth

Looking back to last fall/winter, October was our fall rush event—Fall in Love with Beta Mu. Four guests attended, one being a past member who was re-instated in November 2024. Attending MARC Conference, representing Beta Mu, was Edie Floyd, Tricia Bayles and Barbara Warmoth.

In November Beta Mu hosted a Thanksgiving dinner event for the Coles County Chapters, members of Beta Mu, Alpha Upsilon and Omega Nu attended. Before departing, all three chapters had several volunteers each to form a committee to plan future events to join together for one or two socials in a year. Novembers' educational presentation was by a representative from HOPE of East Central and the charitable craft was creating snowman wrapped chocolate bars with mitten hats for distribution to children of clients at their Christmas party.

In December several members helped at the Omega Nu table at ONE STOP CHRISTMAS: Tricia Bayles, Helen Hendren, Susan Kile, and Barbara Warmoth.

In February members made over 75 Valentine cards that were distributed to several Charleston area senior care facilities and later in the month we had a crafting afternoon where members learned to use twine to wrap empty wine bottles creating a textured vase.

March had us making Easter treat bags for the residents at The Haven homeless shelter in Mattoon and later in month having a Bunco party for our March social.



CHAPTER CHATTER



Epsilon Zeta - Maria Bingheim

A huge thank you to the members who made the road trip to Quincy for the Spring Gathering.

I hope that it was an enjoyable and informative time for all. It was my pleasure to host you in Quincy.

Maria Bingheim



2024 SPRING FLING



CHAPTER CHATTER



Omega Nu - Crystal Alwardt

Greetings from our Busy Bee Hive!

We are excited to share what we've been up to...

December we helped Santa create and stuff stockings with snack, toiletries, candies & misc for local veterans and our local Shop with a Cop had us up and down the store isles gathering items and sharing in the excitement with the receiving children.

January we froze our "stingers" off with the Polar Plunge either by taking the dip or helping with the after party dinner serving Special Olympians in central Illinois and those plunging community members.

February the buzz all over town was our sold out Music Bingo where our chapter raised \$7000 to provide tour buses for the local St. Jude Mattoon to Peoria run. This offers a warm, safe resting place for the runners.

We also hosted a 25th Anniversary Party celebrating years of community service!

March kept us busy with our local Daddy Daughter Dance again raising money for St. Jude Children's Hospital in addition, many members assisted with WMCI Radio-a-Thon taking pledges and creating social media "buzz" for the event.

Our Bees are creating honey here in central IL and looking forward to our coming out of winter hibernation and enjoy our Spring Gathering!

Crystal



Jill Bailey Shull Music Bingo with Omega Nu of ESA

This event is "SOLD OUT" If you have not purchased your tickets yet, I'm sorry that we will miss you. Be sure to look for us again next year and get your ticket early.



CHAPTER CHATTER



Usterwuzzers [Illinois State Council Past Presidents] - Jill Shull

Hello Usterwuzzers,

It was oh so great to see so many of you at the Spring Event in Quincy. It was a much-needed adjustment to head your direction. What a nice day and thank you to Epsilon Zeta for hosting.

First off, are your dues up to date and paid? They are \$1.00 per year. Contact Rhonda Rawlings to double check your balance.

Next, I am sharing a few notes of interest from our Usterwuzzer meeting in March regarding the upcoming Illinois State Council Convention. We will be doing the same fundraisers that we have done the past few years. They are \$20.00 donation and we will be selling 50/50 tickets as well. If you are unable to attend Convention you can still contribute.

Also, at the Convention we will be installing Misty into the Usterwuzzers. I will get in touch with you later as to how this will happen. Something fun? Serious? Goofy?

The 2024-2026 new Usterwuzzer officers are as follows:

President: Kathleen Grissom
Vice President: Terri Crum
Secretary: Adrian Spurduto
Treasurer: Misty Evans

Get your registration in for the Illinois State Council Convention. No price increase from last year. And I hope to see you then.

Jill Shull
2022-2024 Usterwuzzer President



We usta be really important; now we are Usterwuzzers

**Midwest Area Regional Council
39th Annual Conference
Sheraton Westport Plaza,
St. Louis, Missouri
October 11-12, 2024
Hosted by Missouri State Past
Presidents (Torchbearers)**



Name _____ State _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone _____

Travel Plans: Driving _____ Flying: Airline _____ Flight # _____ Date _____

Names of Roommates: _____

Name Tags Yes _____ No _____ (I will bring my own holder) Program Book Yes _____ PDF Only _____

Registration Fees (**includes meeting fees, food, A/V, tax and service charges**)

Postmarked By 9/13/2024

- Registration for Conference and Leadership \$175.00
- Registration excluding Friday Leadership \$150.00

Partial Registration

- Saturday Lunch only \$ 50.00
- Saturday Banquet only \$ 65.00

Postmarked After 9/13/2024

- Registration for Conference and Leadership \$190.00
- Registration excluding Friday Leadership \$175.00

Partial Registration

- Saturday Lunch only \$ 65.00
- Saturday Banquet only \$ 80.00

Walk-in Registration After 10/1/2024

- Walk-In Cash or Money Order Only \$205.00

Youth Meals (Under 12 years old) *

- Friday Lunch \$ 18.00
- Saturday Breakfast \$ 16.00
- Saturday Lunch \$ 18.00
- Banquet \$ 22.00

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Medical Dietary Restrictions (additional charges may apply) _____

Please make checks payable to Torchbearers 2024 MARC Conference.

Mail to: Torchbearers, 717 Galveston Court, Moscow Mills, MO 63362

Questions regarding registration can be directed to MSCTorchbearers@gmail.com or Phone:(636) 485-8694

Hotel Information: Sheraton Westport Plaza, 900 Westport Plaza Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146

Group Code: Midwest Area Regional Council Conference <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1687554624013&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

Room Block honored until **September 19, 2024**

Room Rate: \$159 Single/Double (No Limit to number of guests in the room)

*Room rates honored two days prior/ one day after conference based upon availability

Complimentary self-park, in room Wi-Fi

Current officer/Offices Held

(Check all that apply)

MARC EXEC Board

MARC APPT Board

MARCette

IC EXEC Board

IC APPT Board

ESA Foundation

ESA Headquarters

1st Time Attendee

Guest

Youth Attendee

**NO REFUNDS AFTER
09/01/2024**

All cancellation requests must be made in writing, postmarked by 9/1/2024, if approved, a \$15 cancellation fee applies; one-time only member to member transfer registration is allowed by 9/1/2024 with a \$15 processing fee. \$45 processing fee applies for returned checks.

***Registration Chair will contact you with youth meal choices.**

Message from Celeste Webb

Greetings Illinois. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support on my journey on the International Council. Your campaign donations, kind words and friendship have been encouraging. Many of you have attended the IC Conventions for my installations and the friendship of ESA. I thank you for the reassurance. We always have each others back.

Please consider attending the IC Convention this year in Overland Park Kansas. It will be held July 7-14 at the Doubletree Corporate Woods. Convention chairs, Suzy Winters and Kim Kummer are going all out to ensure a great time.

Tours include a casino, shopping, a ballgame of the KC Monarchs and a dinner and musical production of Newsies at the New Theatre. There will be a tour of the Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Garden on Monday the 8th of July. My favorite is the Witches Twisted Brew Bash on Tuesday where we visit a brewery, a coffee shop and a vinaigrette shop. Finishing the day at a vineyard.

The welcome party has a Great Gatsby theme so get your flapper outfit out of storage.

Of course we will reveal the St Jude numbers and celebrate Easterseals and Hope for Heroes. The keynote speaker is a woman military pilot. How inspirational!

What a fun week they have planned so please consider attending all or some of the week. Registration forms are on the ESA website.

The next few pages include information about the convention.



2024 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
 There's No Place Like Kansas
 July 7 – July 14, 2024
 DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Kansas City – Overland Park
 10100 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS 66210
 DoubleTree Hotel at: (913) 451-6100



MEMBER NAME MEMBER NUMBER/STATE / _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
 CELL # EMAIL _____
 CHAPTER NAME CHAPTER # STATE COUNCIL _____
 DATE OF ARRIVAL TIME OF ARRIVAL FLY DRIVE USING SCOOTER Y/N _____
 DO YOU NEED A NAME BADGE HOLDER? Y N WOULD YOU LIKE A PDF BOOKLET? Y N _____
 ROOMMATE(S) _____
 Each registered guest will receive an email confirmation after form and payment has been received

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY
 First IC Convention Pledge ELAN Collegiate Member – Campus HQ Staff _____
 ESA Foundation Board IC Elected/Appointed Board Past IC President (year) _____
 2023-2024 State President – State 2024-2025 State President – State _____
 Previous State President -- State(s)/Year(s) Served with: _____
 I will be recognized at convention for my years of ESA Service 25-70 years in 5-year increments: _____
 Dietary Restrictions: The hotel will do its best to accommodate DIETARY RESTRICTION requests only.
Restriction or Allergy alert: (Additional costs may apply)

	<u>CIRCLE AMOUNT</u>
MEMBER FULL REGISTRATION FEE: Includes general assemblies, workshops, welcome party, recognition dinner and banquet	<input type="checkbox"/> Postmarked by May 1, 2024 \$275 <input type="checkbox"/> After May 1, 2024 (see payment note on page 2) \$325
MEMBER FRI. & SAT. REGISTRATION FEE: Includes general assemblies, recognition dinner and banquet	<input type="checkbox"/> Postmarked by May 1, 2024 \$250 <input type="checkbox"/> After May 1, 2024 (see payment note on page 2) \$300
MEMBER SAT. ONLY REGISTRATION FEE: Includes general assembly and banquet	<input type="checkbox"/> Postmarked by May 1, 2024 \$150 <input type="checkbox"/> After May 1, 2024 (see payment note on page 2) \$200
MEMBER/NON-MEMBER WALK-IN REGISTRATION FEE: Includes everything in full registration	<input type="checkbox"/> See payment note \$350
*PICPA STATE PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON (ADDITIONAL FEE) (all past and present state presidents/IC presidents) \$45
*If served with multiple IC presidents, indicate with whom you wish to sit? SUBTOTAL MEMBER REGISTRATION:	\$ _____

CONVENTION HOTEL ROOM RATES
Single/Double \$154 plus tax. King \$154 plus tax. Junior King Suite \$204 plus tax.
 \$10 Each additional person in the room over 2
 To receive the group rate, you MUST make reservations by June 16, 2024.
 In House Reservations at 913-323-1947; reference code: CDT90H
 or click on the link: [Hotel Reservation Link](#)



TOUR OPPORTUNITIES

Kansas is proud to provide these tour options for your enjoyment in attending IC Convention. Transportation will be provided by 15-passenger vans. Register early to be a part of the fun! Space will

be limited—only 14 seats available for each tour van.

Tour Deadline: JUNE 1, 2024

Hit Hard, Run Fast and Turn Left Tour Sunday, July 7

The Legends is a premier outdoor super-regional outlet shopping mall and entertainment destination located in the Village West development in Kansas City, Kansas. We have several options to offer for a Sunday afternoon of food, fun and friends. Departure and Return Times Vary.

Option A: Maybe you would like trying your luck at the *Hollywood Casino*; there are four different options available at the Casino for your dining pleasure. This price includes transportation only. Departure Time: 10 AM. Return Time: 2 PM

Option B: Maybe shopping the outlet stores is more your game. The *Legends* is the only designer outlet center in the area so come explore more than 100 designer retail outlets and dine in one of their 30 restaurants. This price includes transportation only. Departure Time: 11 AM. Return Time: 3 PM

Option C: If you are a baseball fan, you will love the **KC Monarchs!** This is a minor league baseball team that is interactive, family oriented and moderately priced. The VIP experience includes all you can eat buffet; all you can drink beer, wine, soda & water; as well as reserved outdoor balcony seat and indoor communal seat. And--If that isn't enough, one lucky ESA person will get to throw out the Ceremonial First Pitch! Departure Time" Noon. Game time: 1PM. Return Time: 4PM

Newsies at the New Theatre Sunday, July 7, 6 PM seating

Enjoy dinner and the Disney musical production of *NEWSIES*. *NEWSIES* spins the inspirational tale of Jack Kelly - a charismatic newsboy who dreams of a better life. When the unscrupulous newspaper tycoon, Joseph Pulitzer, raises prices at the newsboys' expense, Jack, along with spitfire reporter, Katherine Plummer, rouse the downtrodden "newsies" to stand up against Pulitzer and fight for what's right!

Departure time: 5:30 PM. Return Time: approximately 10 PM

Nature that Nurtures Tour Monday, July 8, 11 AM-2 PM

The *Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Garden* featuring Margaret's Pond, Monet Garden, sculpture trail and herb garden. All prices include catered box lunch from *Jack Stack BBQ* at the brand new visitor's center and your choice of a self-guided walking tour, walking tour with guide or golf cart tour. Departure time: 11 AM Return Time: 2 PM

Option A: Self Guided Walking Tour

Option B: Walking Tour with Guide

Option C: Golf Cart Tour

Witches "Twisted" Brew Bash Tuesday, July 9, 10 AM-4 PM

Spend the day visiting a brewery, a coffee shop, and a olive oil/vinaigrette store in historic downtown Overland Park. We will have taco bar lunch at the *Brew Lab* as well as enjoy a flight of your favorite ciders or brews. You might also enjoy visiting the *Parisi Coffee* shop nearby that will enlighten you about the art of brewing a quality of cup of joe and they will share a sweet treat. A little "twist" in the brew bash is a visit to *The Tasteful Olive* where you can sample and purchase your favorite blend of olive oil or vinaigrette dressing. We will finish the day with a visit to *Aubrey's Vineyard* on the way back to the hotel for a tour and flight tasting of your favorite wines. Underage guests are allowed, including children. Departure time: 10 AM Return Time: 4 PM

Crossing the Border Tour Tuesday, July 9 (anyone), 9 AM – :3:30 PM or Wednesday, July 10 (men only please) 9 AM – 3:30 PM

We will cross the state line to Kansas City, Missouri to visit three great museums. First you will see the *Negro*

League Baseball Museum and the *Jazz Museum* followed by lunch (included) at the *WWI Museum*. After lunch, spend the afternoon at the National WWI Museum and Memorial. Departure time from hotel: 9 AM Return Time: 3:30 PM

□ The *Negro League Baseball Museum* highlights the obstacles players of color faced, what they did to overcome the challenges of prejudice and social injustice in this country and how their talent, passion and perseverance changed Major League Baseball and America.

□ The *Jazz Museum* preserves the history of American jazz music, with exhibits on Charlie Parker, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald and others.

□ The *WWI Museum* and Memorial is the nation's only public museum dedicated to WWI, with a large collection of photos, weapons and more.

TOUR REGISTRATION FORM
TOUR DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2024

Please select the number of tickets you wish to purchase for the Group Tours listed below. Enclose your check for Total Amount Due.

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ State/Zip _____

Email address: _____

Hit Hard, Run Fast and Turn Left Tour Sunday, July 7

Option A Number of Tickets _____ @ \$24.00 each (10 am – 2 pm)

Option B Number of Tickets _____ @ \$24.00 each (11 am – 3 pm)

Option C Number of Tickets _____ @ \$105.00 each (12 pm – 4 pm)

Amount Due for Legends Tour \$ _____

NEWSIES Dinner Theatre Sunday, July 7 (6 pm seating)

Number of Tickets _____ @ \$85.00 each (5:30 – 10 pm)

Amount Due for Dinner Theatre Tour \$ _____

Nature That Nurtures Tour Monday, July 8

Option A Number of Tickets _____ @ \$50.00 each (11 am – 2 pm)

Option B Number of Tickets _____ @ \$60.00 each (11 am – 2 pm)

Option C Number of Tickets _____ @ \$60.00 each (11 am – 2 pm)

A hot boxed lunch (Simple Q Sandwich served with cheesy corn bake, pickle & cookie) will be provided. Please indicate your choice: ___ pulled pork ___ pulled chicken ___ turkey ___ beef brisket

Amount Due for Nature Tour \$ _____

Witches "Twisted" Brew Bash Tuesday, July 9

Number of Tickets _____ @ \$82.00 each (10 am – 4 pm)

Amount Due for Brew Bash Tour \$ _____

Crossing the Border Tour..... Tuesday, July 9 (anyone)

Wednesday, July 10 (men only please)

Tuesday Number of Tickets _____ @ \$73.00 each (9 am – 3:30 pm)

Wednesday Number of Tickets _____ @ \$73.00 each (9 am – 3:30 pm)

A boxed lunch (sandwich, chips, cookie, bottled water) will be provided. Please indicate your choice:

___ Honey Ham & Cheddar ___ Turkey & Swiss on Wheat ___ Chicken Salad ___ Veggie Wrap ___ Chef Salad

Amount Due for Crossing the Border Tour \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to ESA IC 2024 Convention

Mail registration form with payment to:

Tammi Mitchell, ESA IC REGISTRATION CHAIR
2298 N Road I, Ulysses, KS 67880; 620-353-0467
ICconvention24@esaks.org

OR

Register and pay online (a 4% handling fee will be added at checkout): www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org



FIRST EVER



JULY 8 - JULY 13, 2024



ESA

CORNHOLE

Games

9 AM DAILY

**DoubleTree Convention Center Patio
Overland Park, KS**

**Non-Members Register with Steve Kummer
skummergb@gmail.com or on the IC Registration Form
by June 1, 2024**

**Cornhole Boards brought to you
compliments of TRAILERGATING.COM**

Connect
THROUGH ESA





Brenda Meyers
International Council President

On March 1st Doug Mills took on his new role as Executive Director of ESA. It was awesome to have him join us in Denver and attend our Mid-Year Executive Board Meeting. Doug has been a part of ESA for many years, and we are excited to see what this new role will bring for all of us!

On the flip side it was bittersweet to say goodbye to Charlotte! It's as if she grew up right in front of our eyes. We are proud of the woman you have become and that we are part of your resume.

Leadership was another big hit this year! We celebrated the Power in all of us. The 24-25 State Presidents are an awesome group, and I can't wait to see what the future holds. They will have so much to share with you. There were a lot of other attendees who came to learn and renew. They will be bringing home their excitement to share with you soon!

I hope you have had time to follow the events posted on the ESA Membership Ideas group. Membership Chairs Lauren Ryan (NC) and Kerry Considine (IL) "Just 1 More" initiative is still going strong. New to the Facebook Group is a take on the great panel discussion format we engaged in at Leadership. We are still celebrating the many ways your chapters and states are making connections in your communities and with each other! There are many new members that have come from using your events for Recruitment and I'm looking forward to the results! And now it is March. Many of you are wrapping up your midyear events and are busy planning your state conventions. I hope you have contacted your IC Board Representative. If you have not received an email from me letting you know who that is please contact me as soon as possible so I can get you in touch with them. It will be very helpful for their travel plans and to help you in any way.

Please continue to "Connect Through ESA" with all the fabulous things you do!

"Reconnect to what makes you happy and brings you Joy. If there is something that used to make you happy which you have stopped doing, do it again. Seek to find deeper meaning and significance rather than living on the surface."

— Susan C. Young

Spring is finally on the horizon in Illinois. Things get busier and busier as the days get longer which is a good thing. Today brings great promise!
As the 2nd VP on the International Council, I am lucky enough to work with Suzy Winters and Kim Kummer on the plans for the IC Convention. Just think how amazing convention will be with 2 past presidents chairing the event! We will meet in Overland Park Kansas, July 7-14 to experience "There's No Place Like Kansas".
The convention will highlight things that relate to Kansas. If you can come in a few days early you will find amazing tours including a baseball game, the theatre showing "Newsies", a trip to the Arboretum, Crossing the Border into Missouri for several interesting stops and, my favorite, The Witches Twisted Brew Bash. This includes wine, coffee and shopping.



Mary Jane Eisenhower, granddaughter of President Dwight D., will be the opening workshop along with our Hope for Heroes presenters. The welcome party will be a Speak Easy so get your flapper dress ready. We will celebrate our accomplishments, the Foundation, St. Jude and Easterseals. We will honor our president, Brenda Meyers, and Connect through all things ESA.
The registration form and all of the Convention information has been shared with each state and is found on the ESA website, epsilonsigmaalpha.org. If you have questions or need information please call or e-mail me. I am here to help! I hope to see you in Overland Park. I will also be attending the Oregon, Georgia and Missouri State Conventions. The best thing about ESA is the connections and the friendships we meet along the journey.

News from Workshop Coordinator, Margaret Kramer



Good day all. I wanted to give you all an update on what's happening at the International Council Convention in Overland Park, Kansas. I am excited to share that our Key Note Speaker is Elizabeth Montgomery, the first 100 or so women to fly the Black Hawk in the U.S. Army. There will be a presentation by Mary Jean Eisenhower, granddaughter of President D. Eisenhower followed by a Hope for Hero workshop guest Blue Star Mother, Anita Dixon. Membership Tracy Swanson, Lauren Ryan and Kerry Considine are planning a great Workshop for us. St. Jude team and Easterseal's Brittney Rosenmund are planning special Workshops as well. If you have a desire to become more knowledgeable with technology join Josh and Sara Johnson and Jennifer Gailey on Saturday afternoon. Kerry Considine will be teaching you the basics of American Sign Language and Bailee Pfiester will be sharing her expertise on cupcake decorating.



Save the date: July 7 – 14, 2024 for the **2024 ESA IC Convention** held at the **DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Kansas City - Overland Park**. Your Kansas ESA Sisters and Brothers look forward to hosting you for a fabulous time in Overland Park.

Place your ad now in the convention book, and beat the June 1st deadline, Recognize an ESA member, promote an event or your business. ESA is coast to coast and what a great opportunity to highlight a business that may draw new customers.

Bringing your spouse and not sure what will keep them entertained? For the first time ever **ESA Cornhole**. Register with Steve Kummer at skummergh@gmail.com or on the IC Registration form. Cornhole boards brought to us compliments of TRAILERGATING.COM. Mike Wells will coordinate the **golf outings** for the week at area courses. Register with Mike by May 1st at mwells@phys.ksu.edu .

Speaking of registering, Tammi Mitchell, Registration Chair is ready to receive your registration form. You can complete the form and send snail mail or via a google docs on the ESA Website >> Member Center>> Chapter Council Mgmt>> IC Convention.

Convention Tours are finalized! Explore the best of Overland Park and the area. There is shopping, casinos and baseball, oh my with the **Hit Hard, Run Fast, Turn Left** tour on Sunday, July 7. **Newsies at the New Theatre** also on Sunday, July 7. **Nature that Nurtures** tour at the Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Gardens, Monday, July 8. **Witches “Twisted” Brew Bash** will take you to historic downtown Overland Park with visits to a brewery, coffee shop, an olive oil store and finish the day at a winery on Tuesday, July 9th. Finally, **Crossing the Border**

to Kansas City, Missouri to visit the Negro League Baseball Museum, Jazz Museum and WW I Museum on Tuesday, July 9th and Wednesday, July 10th (men only).

Finally, order your commemorative There’s no place like Kansas t-shirt today. Shirts will be picked up in Overland Park at the convention.

Contact Kim Kummer or Suzy Winters with questions. We look forward to you joining us for the ESA IC Convention in 2024.





IC Convention is just around the corner, and we cannot wait to welcome you to Kansas for a night of “All that Jazz”! We hope to see you all at our Welcome Party on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, dressed to impress in your best prohibition era/jazz attire. There will be a costume contest, games, live music, dancing and so much more! Make new friends, mingle, take photos at one of our photo ops, sip on a themed cocktail, try your luck at some blackjack and other back-alley games, and try not to get caught by the fuzz.



“CONNECT
through ESA”
IC Educational Director

HELLO SPRING!!! Its just around the corner and Leadership in Denver was awesome.

We all have to admit we have had a really rare winter. The temperatures are cold one day and hot the next, however, it can not keep us from doing our educationals in your state at your chapter meetings.

Our year is moving really fast and before you know it, June 1 deadline will be here and then judging at IC in July.

I really hope your chapters are presenting educationals at their chapter meetings and then send in those reports to your State Educational Director OR you can collect 6 educationals minimum to place in your notebook or collect 9 for more points and place in your notebook. Then submit it to your state educational director for judging at your state convention. Remember the top 3 will be submitted to me (your IC Educational Director-Jacque Cantrel) for judging. The top 10 will be placed on the tables in the Association of the Arts room. There will be specific times all members can review them at IC. Remember to go to your state website for the requirements of submitting your educational

notebooks.

This is also a reminder to the State Educational Chair to consider submitting your Maie Wells notebook for judging at IC as well. You will need to go to the IC website for requirements.

Yes it requires a little time, but so worth it!!!!

Looking forward to hearing from many states this year.

Jacque Cantrel

IC Educational Director

From Tracy Swanson, ESA HQ Membership Director

From ESA HQ Membership Director

JUST ONE MORE!

As we approach Founder's Day, our goal is to have JUST ONE MORE member in each state this May 31 as we did at the start of the campaign year on June 1, 2023. Do your part by welcoming someone new this spring and welcoming back some former ESA friends who you miss and would love to see

again. **Reinstated members count too in the Just One More campaign.** A recruitment party or reunion activity is the perfect way to up the friendship fun in your chapter too. Net growth states will be celebrated throughout the spring at their state conventions and again at IC Convention.

Come for the fun on Facebook Live with IC Membership Chairs Lauren Ryan and Kerry Considine each month to see if your state had growth for the month and watch the prize drawing. Join the ESA Membership Ideas group on Facebook and log in for the monthly updates (about 10 minutes each)

All events are Monday evenings, 8 pm Eastern/7 pm Central/6 pm Mountain/5 pm Pacific (Tuesdays, 11 am in Queensland, AU)

- Feb 5
- March 11
- April 8
- May 6
- June 10

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ESAmembershipIdeas>

Earn Your Power of Association in ESA's Power of Us Campaign

Remember, the Power of Us campaign concludes on May 31. One way to earn your ESA Power of Association component is to host a recruitment activity this spring. Host your recruitment party and submit your entry via www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/PowerofUs to earn prizes and recognition through the campaign.

For materials and assistance to plan a reunion or recruitment event, contact ESA Membership Director Tracy Swanson membership@epsilonalpha.org or visit the website www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/Recruitment

Join Us for Founder's Day on Thursday, May 2nd via Zoom

4:30 PM Pacific / 5:30 PM Mountain / 6:30 PM Central / 7:30 PM Eastern (9:30 AM Friday QLD/AU)

Save the Date! Celebrate ESA Founder's Day with friends across the country during this virtual national anniversary celebration. We will perform a live lamp pin ceremony for any new members who would like to join ESA during the special event. Any new members from this year who have already joined and would like to re-enact their pin ceremony are invited to do so as well. This is a great opportunity to welcome new members to your chapter this spring and give them a great ESA experience to kick off their ESA journey.

Whether you have been a member for a few months or many decades, please join us as we celebrate our history and our future. Come on your own or host a chapter watch party to hear our special guest speakers, join in a group toast to ESA, and share this opportunity to welcome new members from across the country to the ESA family in style. Registration opens in March at www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/Events.

Hello Everyone!

Jennifer and I are so excited for all the updates from attending Leadership in Denver last month. So, we are getting ready for the IC Challenge on July 12, 2024 and it is so exciting to announce we will be having an "ESA SOCK HOP"!



So get out your "Poodle Skirts and Saddle Shoes" and join us for all the fun and music as we gather for St Jude Children's Research Hospital. Go to: www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/ICChallenge for the registration form. Deadline is May 31,2024 to secure your t-shirt.

We hope all chapters and ESA Members are gathering items like crafts and toys and books for The Power of Connection campaign this month. You can go to stjude.org/child-life to select toys, gift-cards and supplies needed for the St Jude patients.

Join us on March 28th for a virtual gathering and a special speaker from ALSAC. We will learn how the items impact the patients and families at St Jude.

Remember to register by March 21, 2024 for your zoom link with Deena Steele at: www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/register

We look forward to seeing everyone on March 28th and at IC in Kansas in July as we continue our fundraising efforts to

St Jude patients and families.

Anthe Tyndell and Jennifer Gailey

IC ESA for St Jude Coordinators 2023-2024

Hello ESA! Convention is fast approaching and I hope we will see you all there! The Hope for Heroes workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, July 10th, at 2:15 in the Doubletree Ballroom. I am excited to announce that our speaker will be Anita Dixon. I am including a little about her but want to save some information for her introduction at IC.



Anita F. Dixon, Gold Star Mother of 25-year-old US Army Sergeant Evan S. Parker, killed in action on October 26, 2005, in Operation Iraqi Freedom where he received his second Purple Heart and Bronze Star. Since 2005, Anita has dedicated her time helping, supporting, and healing Gold Star families through their loss. Anita petitioned the state of Kansas for House Bill #2691 to establish the Gold Star Mother License Plate tag in 2009 and received the #1 Tag. Anita is married to Retired US Air Force Master Sergeant K. L. Dixon. They spend their time between Wichita, Kansas and St. Louis, Missouri. Anita has 3 sons, 3 stepsons and 8 grandchildren.

Anita is requesting donations to Wreaths Across America, which we all are familiar with. Wreaths are \$17 apiece. Checks should be made out to Wreaths Across America. If you wish to designate a specific cemetery, you can go to their website, wreathsacrossamerica.org, and fill out the form and make payment there. You can also print the form and bring it with your check to Convention.

So come in your Patriotic attire and enjoy a great speaker!

Bonnie Templeton and Jill Richards

FOUNDATION NEWS



Plan to arrive at IC convention on Tuesday, July 9th, because you won't want to miss the ESA Foundation Fund Fest '**Carnival.**' There will be all your favorite games and of course, Silent and Oral auctions. If you are interested in being a volunteer at the event or have something you would like to donate, please contact Pat Howerton at esaffundfest@gmail.com.

NEWS FROM THE STATES!

Hello from Georgia State Council,

The weather here in Georgia is trying to warm up a little. We had our Mid-Year meeting a couple of weeks ago and it was amazing! On Friday evening, we were treated to a mixer party by the hosting chapter, Gamma Omega, who did an outstanding job. On Saturday, we took care of business, talked about some upcoming Chapter events that will be taking place, and fellowshiped with each other. Our members were asked to bring grooming items to donate to the local women's shelter and they did not disappoint! Several bags of items were delivered to the Cumbee Center and the staff there was amazed and appreciative of all that was donated.



Friday night Mixer Party was so much fun!



Online auction winner of one of 2 quilts Volunteers that worked the St. Jude Dream Homes that were donated last year

St. Jude Dream Homes have broken ground here in Georgia and our members are looking forward to volunteering at the Open Houses.

Susan Garner
GSC President 2023-2024
ESA . . . Adventure Awaits



Merry Christmas from Alabama Iota Alpha and Beta Nu were “rockin around the Christmas tree” and having a great time as we decorated our tree at the Parade of Christmas Trees in Prattville. We made ornaments for each of Alabama’s ten chapters and each of ESA’s main philanthropic endeavors—St Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Easter Seals, and Hope for Heroes, along with ornaments representing those organizations’ outreach programs. Included are ornaments with drawings by St Jude children; three of Easter Seals programs; and Hope for Heroes police, fire, and military emblems. Our participation in the Parade of Christmas Trees supports the local Family Support Center. Helping decorate are Jo Perry, Alabama State President; Lynda Edwards, IC First Vice President; Sharon Fox, Beta Nu; and Beth Scott, Iota Alpha. Siggie Gonzalez, Iota Alpha, must be hiding behind the tree like a little elf because she was there helping, as always, making sure we stayed on track. Our efforts show how ESA can have loads of fun while supporting a charity. Jo Perry Alabama State President

IT’S A GREAT DAY IN ALABAMA

Alabama ESA started 2024 with something special when members were treated to a bit of “old south” at its February Council meeting hosted by Beta Nu. Lynda Edwards ensured the event, held at Prattville’s historic Buena Vista, was nothing short of elegant. Chapters attending were Alpha Pi from Selma, Delta Gamma and Zeta Chi from Florence, Iota Alpha from Montgomery, Alpha Alpha from Cullman, Kappa Alpha from Heflin, and Alpha Omega from Birmingham. When finished with the Council's business meeting, members had fun trying to solve a word puzzle. They were treated to a lunch from down "ole Mexico" followed by a delicious southern chocolate dessert made by Chef Lynda Edwards. Chapters continue with their philanthropic projects in support of our designated charities, but Alpha Pi in Selma is relentless in its efforts to support not only St Jude Children’s’ Research Hospital but also Selma’s many efforts helping their citizens who suffered immeasurably from the devastating tornado two years ago. However, all of our Alabama chapters are serious about fulfilling their commitments to ESA. We are excited about the plans we have lined up for this year’s state convention to be held at Alabama’s 4H Center nestled in the woods of Columbiana, May 3-4. And we all are busy digging through our trunks and searching attics for hats to celebrate America's longest-running sports event— the Kentucky Derby. While it may be the longest running sports event, it is actually the fastest sports event!! However, we hope our Derby bingo Friday night is as exciting as the actual race on Saturday. We definitely know the games will last more than the Derby’s two minutes. While we may be focused on our convention for now, we are buzzing with excitement as we plan our trip to Overland Park in support of Lynda Edwards as she is installed as IC president in July. Lynda is one of the most dynamic persons you will ever meet and is definitely passionate about ESA. We look forward to all that Lynda will be able to accomplish as IC International president. It’s great to be a member of ESA where members are devoted to serving others while still having fun. Jo Perry President, Alabama ESA

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE ARE SEVERAL ATTACHMENTS TO THE EMAIL THAT YOU WILL BE INTERESTED IN.

Newsletter Article Deadlines:

May 1

July 1

2024 ESA IC Convention T-Shirt
\$30 – Delivered at Convention, Merchandise
Table 1. Click on this link below or use your
camera on
the QR code at the right:



www.acgreek.com/esaconvention



2. Click on the Shirt
for Full Details

2. Click on the Shirt for Full Details (do NOT Click on “Buy It Now” Screen should look like this screenshot below:



3. Fill in Quantity and Size, then Click on **Add to Cart**

4. Enter your Chapter Name (at the left) and PromoCode (at the right): **PickUp2024** Click on **Apply** (discount will be applied at checkout)

5. Click on **Checkout**

6. Create your account or login

7. Enter shipping information and July 7 as the date

(although

any date will work). Shipping info is just in case you don't pickup at convention—but then shipping will be added to your order.

8. Click on **Continue** and enter payment information

9. Place order!

Thank you and see you at Convention!