

## **Oklahoma State Council of ESA Leadership Seminar Minutes August 13, 2011**

The Oklahoma State Council of ESA Leadership Seminar was called to order by president, Gwynn Nell Swanson, at 10:04 a.m. on Saturday, August 13, 2011, at the Holiday Inn, Norman, Oklahoma.

President Gwynn Nell welcomed everyone. Members stood for the opening ritual led by Sooner Seniorettie Deb Hughes. Sooner Seniorettie Patsy Timmons led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance included: one first-time attendee, one guest, no pledges, two DESA's/Elans, and no MAL's.

Chair to read the June 18 Executive & General Board meeting minutes Bunnie Sullins, reported the minutes will be placed on file as printed.

The president announced the following appointments: Committee to approve minutes of this meeting: Chair past state president Joyce Whitewing, with committee members: past state presidents, Linda Voss, Jacque Edwards.

The president introduced the first speaker, State Regent of the DAR, Diane Hamill from Ardmore. Mrs. Hamill presented a PowerPoint presentation on "What is the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution)" and related how our two organizations were similar.

The president introduced Betty McCallister who will be the timekeeper for today's reports. First report was Membership Chair Mary Johnson, who gave out an "Ask Me Button . . . Bring out the BEST of ESA!" handout explaining a new membership program from IC. Everyone was given "Ask Me About ESA" aqua buttons. She also reported that each member who pledges a member will be given an ESA tote bag from ESA Headquarters.

ESA Foundation Counselor Ramona Paine, handed out "Plateaus of Achievement" certificates for 2010-2011 to the following:

Bronze (\$250-\$499) to Dawn Haley, Gamma Delta; Melba Spain, Omega Pi

Silver (\$500-\$599) to Eta Mu; Beta Mu; Billie Fritch, Beta Zeta; Ramona Paine, Theta Tau; Sally & John Moriarity; Nadine Moyer, Eta Epsilon

Crystal (\$1,000-\$4,999) to Teresa & Mark Harde; Stacey Clement; Kay Ingersoll, Sigma Chi

Turquoise (\$5,000-\$14,999) to Delta Kappa

Amethyst (\$100,000-\$149,999) to Cathy Holsted, Theta Tau

The ESA Foundation Counselor also announced the scholarship applications will be available around the first of September on the website and encouraged everyone to make sure students are aware of them. Foundation Membership Application forms were placed on all tables. Although dues must be paid by March 1, 2012, to be able to vote at IC, everyone was encouraged to pay this fall so dues reminders won't have to be mailed.

Easter Seals Chair Jo Rott, announced everyone is invited to a tour of the Oklahoma City Easter Seals office on Thursday, October 6 at 10:45 a.m. Dutch treat lunch will be after the tour. She encouraged everyone to buy cookies from her today to support Easter Seals.

President Gwynn Nell introduced the second speaker, Andrea Brown Robinson, who is the middle daughter of Sooner Seniorette Robbin Brown. Her excellent speech was on Basic Principles of Leadership.

Sooner Seniorette Judi York was the next presenter, and along with other Sooner Seniorette helpers, she presented a PowerPoint program on "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About..." Their first item was "Flag Protocol."

Judi announced there will be no more Circle of Life titles. As the current Oklahoma Circle of Life Chair, she said she will instead be called the Oklahoma St. Jude Coordinator and raising money for St. Jude will be called "ESA for St. Jude." She announced Oklahoma was in the top 10 states at International Council convention, with Oklahoma raising \$587,299 this year. ESA nationwide raised \$9,142,732, making our grand total over \$150 million as we celebrate 40 years supporting St. Jude. Special 40 year pins can be ordered for \$40 which supports St. Jude from ESA merchandise. St. Jude has "Team ESA" and "ESA and St. Jude" logo t-shirts. The Give Thanks Walk will be held November 19 in both Tulsa and Oklahoma City. Everyone is encouraged to register and help with the event. Rosalie Griffin, Deb Hughes, and Judi will be traveling to Memphis December 3 for the St. Jude Memphis Marathon and others are encouraged to participate. After the first of the year, planning will begin for the St. Jude Dream Homes and the Radiothons.

Treasurer Linda Southerland gave the following report: Beginning balance \$5,514.29; Income \$200.69; Expenses \$450.72; Balance as of July 1, 2011 \$5,063.57.

Jr. Past President/Disaster Fund Chair Jacque Edwards gave examples of disasters that may affect ESA members. Applications for up to \$5,000 are available from her or on the website. Over 20 claims were paid nationwide this past year, and several were from Oklahoma. Jacque has received \$500 so far this year, but much more is needed to replenish the fund. Make checks payable to Disaster Fund.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 so members could shop at the ESA mall until lunch was served.

Chaplain Linda Leveridge offered the lunch blessing. She reported she had responded to 18 emails, sending cards and prayers to each person. Since she has not been able to access the oklaesa website, she encouraged everyone to send concerns to [lleveridge@att.net](mailto:lleveridge@att.net). She also sent a report to IC Chaplain Sandy Alexander; new IC Chaplain is Margene Holtze from Nebraska.

2012 State Convention Chair Janice Shockley, and her "farm hands" performed a short skit during lunch reminding everyone to get their registrations for state convention in before November 1 in order to have their name in the drawing for a free convention registration.

The meeting reconvened at 12:55 p.m.

Corresponding Secretary Sue Knight, read regrets from Publicity Chair Leslie Farabee, Sooner Seniorette Billie Linville, and a note from Sooner Seniorette Dorothy Drumm.

Sr. Past President/Workshop Coordinator Deb Hughes, distributed handouts entitled "Brainstorm Convention Workshop Ideas." She encouraged members to check the ones they were most interested in and write any new suggestions on the back so next year's workshops would be meaningful.

Second Vice President/Educational Chair Tina Davenport-McKamie reminded members this year's theme is "Get Fit...Get Healthy." She gave a mini-educational on the benefits of laughter.

Care Connection/Hope for Heroes Chair Peggy Sprinkle showed a moving PowerPoint presentation on what Oklahoma chapters have been doing to support the military. Her handout gave suggestions on what individuals, groups, and community could do and suggested items for boxes for heroes. She also encouraged individuals and chapters to fill out the Hope for Heroes project form on the website and send to her.

Junior Past President Jacque Edwards presented IC award certificates to various individuals.

Sooner Senioresses Judi York, Rosalie Griffith and Joyce Whitewing presented a workshop on Meeting Protocol.

Webmaster Aletha Bolt demonstrated on the big screen the new ESA website [www.espilonsigmaalpha.org](http://www.espilonsigmaalpha.org) showing some of the primary links and what was in the Member Center. She then showed the [www.oklaesa.org](http://www.oklaesa.org) website (most passwords are: esa2008) and encouraged members to send pictures in JPEG format and flyers or articles in Word (.doc) or Adobe (.pdf) format. A free program to convert files to PDF can be found at [www.primopdf.com](http://www.primopdf.com). She then explained OK ESA Email accounts and showed how to log in. Open Office is a free program for those who don't have Microsoft Office. It can be found at [www.openoffice.org](http://www.openoffice.org).

District V Coordinator Ruth Thompson announced her Leadership would be Sept 17 at 9:30 a.m. at Bridgeport Dunes in Eufaula hosted by Chi Epsilon, Talihina and Gamma Kappa, Checotah. Lunch will be \$10.

District II Coordinator Sylvia Ochs handed out a flyer announcing her August 27 Leadership "Sail Away With ESA." Registration starts at 9:30 at the Noble Avenue Baptist Church with Donna Rynda as the featured speaker. Lunch will be \$10.

District III ESA member Peggie Sprinkle announced the September 24 Leadership would be at the Osage County Co-op in Hominy with registration at 9:30 a.m.

District IV Coordinator Ellen Clark announced her September 10 Leadership would be at the Spencer Event Center at Post Rd and NE 23 in Midwest City with registration at 9:30 a.m.

Gwynn Nell thanked everyone for giving her the opportunity to attend IC in Overland Park, KS. She thanked Robbin Brown's mother who opened her home to the Oklahoma delegates for dinner and the Caucus.

State Project Director Margaret Kramer said both schools had delayed their starting date because of the intense heat so student enrollment has been delayed. OSD will have approximately 150 students

and OSB anticipates a larger enrollment than last year. Both schools are on a tight budget and the number of needy students is increasing. Each chapter is encouraged to sponsor at least one student this year and many individuals are needed for student sponsorships. If you've sent in a check to the State Project Fund, Margaret did not have access to the bank account, but a new account will be opened soon and checks will be deposited.

Directory Chair Mary Adams announced she has 7 directories left.

The president recognized all the Sooner Senioresses. She announced the next Council meeting will be November 12 at the Goodrich Methodist Church in Norman.

Sooner Senioresses Judi York, Rosalie Griffith, and Joyce Whitewing presented a workshop on Banquet Protocol and Table Etiquette.

Announcements:

- Billye Peterson asked everyone to vote before Aug 26 for The Hugs Project at [www.classyawards.org](http://www.classyawards.org), a contest to win \$25,000 for postage for troop care packages. The 2 categories to vote in are Small Charity of the Year and Volunteer of the Year (choose Ray & Karen Stark). She also invited everyone to Gamma Zeta's Bountiful Harvest dinner and auction September 20 and encouraged everyone to purchase a raffle ticket for an Apple Ipad 2.
- Mary Johnson announced that October is ESA membership month.
- June Miller encouraged everyone to send her recipes for a cookbook her chapter is doing. Margaret Kramer announced the OSD tour will be October 8. Deb Hughes announced the winner of their raffle drawing.

Door prizes, furnished by TAC (Tulsa Area Council) were distributed. President Gwyn Nell announced that door prizes for the November meeting will be furnished by District IV.

Sooner Senioress June Miller led the closing ritual. Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

An International Convention meeting followed and was conducted by IC Convention Local Chairman Cathy Holsted.

s/ Dr. Billye Peterson  
Recording Secretary

Date approved by committee: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date placed on file: \_\_\_\_\_