



Epsilon Sigma Alpha International

Oklahoma State Council

Petticoat Journal

Mona Johnston: President

August/ September

Volume 69, Issue 1

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Who knew this year would be off to such a different start? This will be my 1st article to address the Oklahoma ESA membership and I would like to make it a good welcome.

When it seems like our world is “Upside Down”, a sense of calm and a safe place to regroup is always necessary.

You, my sisters, *give each other* that place of calm and through our sisterhood, we can find the “Calm in the Storm”. This was evident during our 1st State Council meeting in June. There were more smiling faces that had not seen each other since last year’s Leadership in September 2019, and you genuinely were happy to be a part of this meeting.

Oklahoma ESA, as well as ESA in general, have certainly had a different set of circumstances, but through it all, we will adjust, keep the focus where it needs to be and know in our hearts that there is always *love and caring* coming from each other.

It always amazes me when Oklahoma ESA members keep raising money (Congratulations to the Dream Home effort) and accept the changes and adjustments that have to be made during our trying time.

As I write this, I know that our 2020 Oklahoma State Convention will already be in the books as a success and adjustments will have been made to make it complete and I would like to thank Robbin Brown and Linda Leveridge for your hard work, as well as the Convention Committee.

Ladies, please know that Oklahoma ESA will support all of our projects, but most of all will support each other with our **“Beautiful Music”**.

Mona





Sandy Lackey

First Vice President 2020/2021

Oklahoma State Council of ESA

Ladies, this is my first article as your 1st Vice President and it is going to be an exciting year.

It has started in a blur with not being able to meet in person but hopefully we will get through it without a hitch.

I know we are just getting started with our new year and Mona has some exciting things planned, but I would also like for everyone to consider running for or holding a position on my board.

We don't have all the final plans for convention in 2022 yet, but Mona has hers all set for 2021. Her convention will also be the start of another year for us to enjoy what we do best. Raise funds for worthy causes and most of all St Jude Children's Research Hospital. Also, every year is a time to have fun and enjoy each other's company. With that being said, please consider a position, if I said YES so can you.

The postponed convention is coming up at the end of July and lets all pray we still get to have it.

Hoping to see everyone soon

Sandy



Second Vice President/Educational Director-Robyn Ryan

My theme is "Women who made a difference".

Georgia Ann Robinson (May 12, 1879-Sept 21 1961)

Was an American police officer and community worker who was the first African American woman to be appointed a police officer at the LA Police Department. She also was one of the first police women in the United States. Robinson appointment is regarded as a landmark for a second reason as "her duty, to refer young black women to social agencies rather than arrest them was one of the first attempts by the LAPD to provide services to the black community and dispel the idea that African Americans were naturally predisposed to crime."

Georgia was brought up first by an older sister then in a convent. She moved to Kansas at 18 working as a governess. She married Morgan Robinson and they moved to Colorado. They had a daughter Marian.

Robinson was an active suffragist while in Colorado and a key organizer and office holder in LA branch of the National Assoc. for the Advancement of Colored People.

She joined the force as a volunteer in 1916 and was appointed an officer in 1919. She worked on juvenile and homicide cases including referring women and girls to social agencies. *In 1918 a prisoner banged her head into jail bars causing a head injury so severe she lost her sight. Her police career ended. She continued community activism including the campaign to desegregate schools and beaches.*

Georgia founded the Sojourner Truth Home, a shelter for women and girls. She is said to have often brought underprivileged women and children home with her for dinner.

1954 to Ebony Magazine she was quoted. "She had no regrets. I didn't need my eyes any longer. I had seen all there was to see."



Epsilon Sigma Alpha International

Oklahoma State Council Meeting

June 20, 2020 Minutes

Via Zoom

The meeting was called to order by Mona Quaid Johnston, Oklahoma State President at 10:10 a.m. with a recitation of the Opening Ritual. Mona led in the flag salute and gave the Thought for the day from Chaplain, Charlene Law. Mona recognized the Sooner Seniors, present at the meeting.

Brenda Yates and Leslie Farabee took names of those in attendance so there was no roll call. Carol King was a first time attendee and Patsy Timmons was our guest. The committee to read the minutes of this meeting included Aletha Bolt, Darla Barton and Sharon Storms. The minutes from the March conference call meeting can be discussed at Convention. Corresponding Secretary had no correspondence to be read.

2019- 2020 ESA State Convention update was presented by Past president, Linda Leveridge. The committee is still working with the Sheraton at the Reed Center to finalize plans for the convention. The Dates are tentative either July 31 through August 1st, (Friday/ Saturday) or August 1st and August 2nd, (Saturday/ Sunday).

Recording Secretary, Linda Jones will send out copies of the minutes to Executive Board and PJ Editor upon completion.

1st Vice President/ Nominating Committee Chair, Sandy Lackey greeted everyone and gave a report as 2nd Vice President and Educational Chair. All entries received for Gold Seal and Gold Link have been judged and the top three books have been sent off to the IC Education Chair for judging at that level. The entries should be back in time for our State Convention for display and pickup.

2nd Vice President/ Educational Director Robyn Ryan announced her theme as “Women Who Made a Difference.”

Treasurer Marilyn Hight, upon recommendation of the Executive Board, moved to allow the Council to transfer \$1,200.00 from the 2012 IC Convention Profit Fund. Coming from a committee, no second is required. This is necessary to meet a deficient in the budget that could hinder ESA members serving as leaders and getting financial needs met by Oklahoma ESA and the Executive Board. Motion carried.

The 2020-2021 budget was presented by Treasurer Marilyn Hight. Upon recommendation of the Executive Board it was moved that the proposed 2020-2021 budget be approved as presented with revision of transfer of \$1,200.00 from the 2012 IC Convention Profit Fund. No second is required. Motion carried.

Petticoat Journal Editor Leslie Farabee, upon the recommendation of the Oklahoma State Council Executive Board, moved that the cost of the Petticoat Journal remain at \$30.00 for the print version. No second needed. Motion carried. Subscription forms are available on oklaesa.org website. Please share the information with chapter members. The first article deadline for August / September edition must be postmarked by July 5th. Please keep articles to ½ page and limit pictures to 2 for each event. Printed copies will be in black and white.

Secret Sister Coordinator Liddie Farabee asked for those interested in participating in the Oklahoma State Council Executive/ General Board Secret Sister Program to please contact her and she will get a form to you.

Directory chair Lori Few, moved to keep the price of the directory at \$8.00 plus \$5.00 postage if it is mailed. No second required. Motion carried. Order form is on the OKESA Facebook page and website. Directories will be for sale during the convention.

Project Director, Amanda Lovell, reported a balance of \$4,358.00. 2019 -2020 allocations are Oklahoma School for the Blind, 81 students and Oklahoma School for the Deaf, 130 students, for a total of 211 students, providing \$20.65 per student. OSB money allocated \$1,672.65 and OSD allocated \$2,684.50. Amanda moved that checks sent with allocated amounts to OSD and OSB be used at their discretion. No second required. Motion carried. Other business Kay Brader’s final report showed that OSD plans on using the funds for new furniture for dorms and distant learning. OSB plans on using the funds for new equipment for their new gym. State Project Sponsorships forms are available. Chapters and individual sponsors need to confirm their intent to continue sponsoring their respective students. Contact Amanda Lovell for additional information.

Eastern Oklahoma District Coordinator, Judi York, announced the officers for the Eastern District as: Coordinator; Judi York, Vice Coordinator; June Miller, Treasurer; Robyn Ryan, Secretary; Gina Wozencraft, Past President/ Parliamentarian; Tawanna Cathey, Project Coordinators; Peggie Sprinkle and Charlene Law. The Eastern District Leadership will be held on Saturday, August 22, 2020 at Highland Park Christian Church in Tulsa.

Western Oklahoma District Coordinator, Ramona Bench, announced the officers and appointed chairs for the Western Oklahoma District as: Coordinator; Ramona Bench, Vice Coordinator; Gloria Torres, Recording Secretary; Darla Barton, Treasurer; Cathy Holsted, Parliamentarian/ Jr. Past Coordinator; Nancy Baucom. Appointed Chairman; Corresponding Secretary; Libby Zaage, Chaplain; Kay Brader, Publicity; Maxine Whelan, and Philanthropic/ Ways and Means; Cathy Holsted. The Western District Leadership will be held on Saturday, October 10, 2020 at Noble Avenue Baptist Church. Spring Meeting will be Saturday, March 20, 2021 at a location to be announced.

Convention Chair for 2020, Robbin Brown, stated that the committee is working with the Reed Conference Center to assure that the Convention can be held under the safest conditions possible. Registration to attend and to reserve rooms is July 17th. Request for refunds must be sent to Janice Shockley in writing by July 17th. There will be no refunds after that date and a \$30.00 late registration fee after July 17th. An announcement will be made and more information will be sent out within the next week.

Contest Chair Peggy Hughes, will be working with Awards Chair, Dana Terell, The Distinguished Athenian Award Chair, Rita Haines, Disaster Fund Chair, Linda Leveridge, Easter Seals Chair, Jill Drummond, ESA Foundation Chair, Vivian Gibson, Gold Link and Gold Seal Awards Chair, Robyn Ryan, Outstanding Chapter Chair, Cheryl Young, State Project Chair, Amanda Lovell, Outstanding Youth Chair, Melissa Byrum, Philanthropic Chair, Linda Voss and Publicity Chair, Gina Wozencraft.

Auditor, Judy Cravens reported that she attended via phone a budget meeting to discuss changes and correction for 2020-2021 budget as well as the June 7, 2020 Executive Board meeting via Zoom.

Hope for Heroes Chair, Jennifer Sparkman asked that everyone keep track of chapter projects, hours, miles and monies spent for Hope for Heroes activities for the end of year report. Previous year guidelines for projects and donations to Tulsa Blue Star Mothers will continue until contact can be made with the group.

www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/Heroes has a link to service project ideas.

Membership Chairman, Peggie Sprinkle will place an update in the August/ September PJ.

Social Media/ Webmaster, Aletha Bolt will send out an email.

Jr. Past President/ Disaster Fund Chair- Linda Leveridge asked that chapters consider adding \$25.00 - \$50.00 to chapter budgets designated for Disaster Fund.

Association of the Arts Chair Jeanne Kindley encouraged everyone to enter an item for 2021 Association of the Arts contest.

State Chaplain Charlene Law has emailed IC and MARC reports emailed to Executive Board, General Board, Sooner Senioresses and Chapter Presidents. Cards were mailed to Darlene Cushenberry for the loss of her son and Rosalie Griffith for the loss of her sister. Please remember to notify Charlene on any news on our members.

Oklahoma MARC Rep, Deb Hughes reported that the August 4th meeting will be via Zoom. The October business meeting and MARC meeting in person has been canceled.

ESA Counselor, Vivian Gibson reported that she has all the endowment statements and available from 2019, as well as how much the 2020-2021 scholarships will be. Please email Vivian if you wish to have a copy. Thank you notes have been received from scholarship recipients. Oklahoma State Council is responsible for the following endowments: Oscar and Joyce Whitewing; Mary Louise Smith; and Hawkins/ Tuma/ Starr.

There will be individual voting this year for the ESA Foundation Board. Ballots will be mailed to Foundation members by the 22nd of June. Select 2 out of the three candidates, Kim Mandrell, Terri Rust and Tammy Akines. Ballots must be returned by June 29th. Oklahoma has two life active incentives and four new life active members: Gina Woziencraft, Gamma Delta, Tulsa; Sigma Chi Chapter, Inola; Oklahoma Sooner Senioresses and Patsy Timmons.

Under State Convention news, Vivian stated that Linda Jones, 2019-2020 Easter Seals Chair and Cheryl Lamacus, 2019-2020 ESA for St. Jude chair will co-chair the auction with her. Assistance is needed to help set up and cashiers are needed. Please talk with your chapter about donating a basket or any item for the auction.

Ramona Paine Means, ESA for St. Jude Chair reported that ESA has partnered with St. Jude's Children Hospital for 48 years. Oklahoma has contributed \$798,862.39 from June 2019 – May 31, 2020. Registration for the 2020 St. Jude Walk/Run is now open at stjude.org/walk. Judi York, Tulsa Dream Home Chair, reported they have less than 500 tickets

left to sell out of 12,000 for the giveaway on August 2nd. Aletha Bolt, spokesperson for the OKC Dream Home reported that 3,400 tickets out of 8,000 have been sold. The giveaway will be on August 27th.

Sooner Seniorett President Nancy Baucom wasn't available, so Billye Peterson gave her report. Officers have been chosen for the year after a March 22nd Zoom meeting. 2020-2021 Officers are SS President – Nancy Baucom, Secretary/Treasurer – Peggie Sprinkle and Historian Linda Leveridge. Sooner Senioresses donated enough money to become a Life Member of the ESA Foundation.

ESA Foundation Parliamentarian and Grants Chair, Rosalie Griffith reported that grant applications are now open and available. Grants are available for Career Enhancement. Those are individual grants awarded to applicants seeking to develop skills for career advancement such as training programs to update or maintain employment credentials or seeking to advance your professional skills. We also have the Vocational Training Grants available. Those are for applicants that need to complete requirement to obtain trade certification or apprenticeships or promoting programs and skills for training in the fine arts. We would especially like to see veterans that are rejoining the workforce to take advantage of these grants that are available. If you know of anyone needing help with tuition fees for any of these grants or if you yourself need help in any of these areas, please visit the ESA Foundation website, www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/esaf.

ESA Foundation Vice Chair Judi York, reported that the voting will be online and individually. There are three candidates for two positions on the Foundation Board. Congratulations to Life Active Foundation members, Gina Woziencraft, Sooner Senioresses, Sigma Chi Chapter and Patsy Timmons of Massachusetts, who joined under Oklahoma.

New Business/ Announcements

Margaret Kramer reported that since Oklahoma State Council Convention will be held after the IC Virtual Convention, there will not be an opportunity for a caucus. Each ESA member will have an opportunity to vote for the IC Board Candidates. The Oklahoma State Council will also get a vote. Margaret Kramer, Beta Iota McAlester, moved that Oklahoma State Council give Mona Johnston voting power to cast Oklahoma State vote for the following IC candidates: Recording Secretary- Mary Humphrey, Colorado; Treasurer- Lynda Edwards, Alabama; Parliamentarian- Chris York, Oregon; Workshop Coordinator- Malinda Remington, Florida.

Brenda Yates, Kappa Alpha, Tulsa seconded. Motion carried. Vivian Gibson, Delta Kappa, Norman made the motion for the Oklahoma State Council to give Mona Johnston voting power to cast Oklahoma State vote for the following ESA Foundation candidates. Kim Mandrell and Terri Rust. The motion was seconded by Margaret Kramer, Beta Iota, McAlester. Motion Carried.

Margaret Kramer reminded everyone to check the IC ESA website for information regarding the Virtual Convention and to join in the fun.

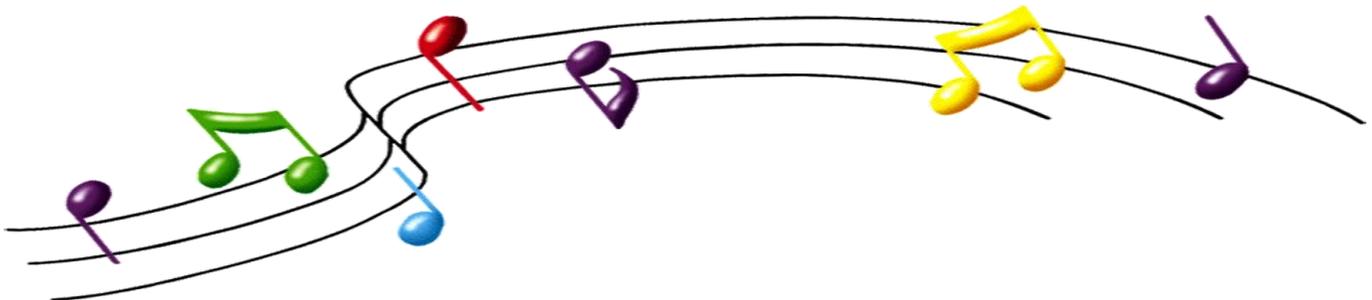
President Mona Johnston will consult with her team of supporters to decide on an additional date in November to hold a meeting/ social event, due to the amount of time between State meetings.

Deb Hughes, reminded everyone to sign up for Team ESA Oklahoma and donate for the St. Jude Walk/ Run.

President Mona Johnston, introduced Patsy Timmons Massachusetts, who was in attendance.

Margaret Kramer announced that 4 fundraisers for Oklahoma State Council are in the works: Sooner Seniorett Calendar, a Jewelry fundraiser, Mag to Sell, and Chances on a Condo. More information will be available later.

Oklahoma State Council Leadership is planned for September 12, 2020 in Stroud, Oklahoma at the Country Cattle Inn. Meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m. Closing Ritual was recited. There were 54 members in attendance, one guest, Patsy Timmons and one first time attendee; Carol King, Kappa Theta, Guthrie. Submitted by Linda Jones, Recording Secretary



Dear ESA Sisters,

I am working with the Oklahoma School of the blind and The Oklahoma School of the Deaf to find sponsors for all the students at the schools. We can use your help. I am attaching a State Project sponsorship form to be filled out and returned to me so we can assure all students have an ESA sponsor. Please fill out a form if you would like to continue sponsoring a child you had in the past or give preferences to a new child. Encourage individuals to sponsor as well as your chapter. Remember to put the state project in your budget as well as remembering that you can monetarily honor or donate in memory of.

As of now, the tour for OSB will be Feb. 27,2021 and OSD Oct. 24,2020.

The students and the schools are so grateful of your generosity. Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

Sincerely,

Amanda Lovell ,State Project Director

918-470-3725 amandalovell@ymail.com



OKLAHOMA STATE COUNCIL
EASTERN DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

If you can **DREAM** it,
you can do it. 

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2020
(If the Covid 19 pandemic allows)

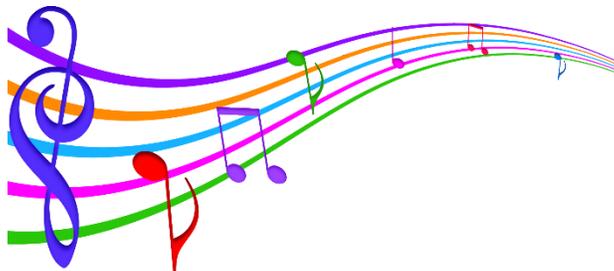
HIGHLAND PARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 5708 E 31ST ST., TULSA, OK

REGISTRATION AT 9:30 AM - MEETING BEGINS AT 10:00 AM

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED BY TULSA AREA COUNCIL

\$10 PER PERSON

RSVP to Judi York at judikay@cox.net by August 15, 2020



Western District Chat

Hello all,

Greeting from the Western District! We are hoping and praying that everyone is well and safe. These are such strange and different times we are living in, so much uncertainty! It makes it rather hard to know how to plan ahead! But we are just going full steam ahead with plans for our year and deal with it as comes.

Our fall leadership meeting is going to be on October 10, 2020. At Noble Avenue Baptist Church, 1219 W. Noble Avenue, Guthrie, Ok.

Fliers will be out closer to then giving more details.

Hope to see you at State Convention!

Ramona Bench
Western District Coordinator
909-553-0130
ramonabench@hotmail.com

Greetings everyone!!!! This is your new Disaster Fund Chair. I am ready and eager to start the next chapter on my journey in ESA. As all of you know, Disasters come in all shapes, forms, and sizes. We are currently experiencing a new challenge. This pandemic has all of us concerned and I must admit a bit worried. For that reason, it is more important than ever to contribute to our State's Disaster Fund. If only one member of our state family is affected, we all are.

So, I am encouraging each chapter to consider increasing your normal about given to the Disaster Fund by twenty-five dollars or more. With the summer heat already here, drought conditions increasing wildfires could lurking in our future not to mention Oklahoma's famous storms.

Preparedness is an absolute must. Please consider increasing your Disaster Fund donation.

Linda Leveridge
Jr. Past President/Disaster Fund Chair

“ESA TAKES HOLLYWOOD”

and look forward to what the 2020-2021 Council Board has in store for us!



Hope to see you at the "Blake Tie Affair, July 31, August 1,2, 2020 Reed Center, MWC

From the Desk of Margaret Kramer, Sr. Past President/Workshop Coordinator

Hello to all, These past months have been so difficult for all of us. Our ESA Family is so accustomed to being together in both good and bad times. Separation and inability to gather and hug will not break us, it will only make us STRONGER. Our local and international leadership has been instrumental in keeping us informed and connected through technology. Look how much we are learning and accomplished through conference calling and zoom meetings. Workshop ideas for the 2021 OK State Council Convention are always welcome, I want to include educational programs that will be fun, interactive and informative. Keep me posted with your thoughts.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our 2019-2020 President, Linda Leveridge and Board for a trophy winning year.



Hi Everybody!

I know it's early but just wanted to encourage you to enter an item of your wonderful gift that God has blessed you with. Rather it be writing poems, short stories, sewing, quilting, scrapbooking, etc.... We have a room rented, so let's make good use of it for the 2021 State Convention. Looking forward to seeing items.

Thank you,

Jeanne Kindley-Lifton

Oklahoma Association of The Arts

Hope for Heroes provides support to military personnel and their families. You can find service ideas and opportunities by going to the following link: www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/Heroes

While the pandemic has curtailed some volunteer opportunities, chapters can still help by donating to the Blue Star Mothers Chapters in Oklahoma. They are asking for:

1. V.A.: pillowcases, snacks & socks
2. Donations for Veterans Homeless Shelter in OKC
3. Airport Welcome Ctr needs volunteers

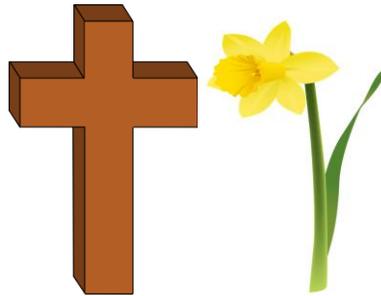
Travel size toiletries and snacks are always welcome donations.

If you have any questions, please contact the Hope For Heroes chair, Jennifer Sparkman at jmsparkman7@gmail.com



Chaplain Report

Sumer is upon us and I hope everyone is safe and well. What a few crazy few months we had starting back in March. These have been very strange months for all. So far this year we had the sad news about our dear sister Darlene Cushenberry lost her son and Rosalie Griffith lost her sister. I have recently learned Sandy Lackey's sister in law had family members in a serious motorcycle accident and Melissa Byrum, Beta Iota passed away. Please keep all our sisters in your thoughts and prayers.



Charlene Law
Oklahoma 2020-21Chaplain

Contest Chair Report by Peggy Hughes

As Contest Chair I'll be working with the Awards Chair- Dana Terrell, the Distinguished Athenian Award Chair – Rita Haines, the Disaster Fund Chair – Linda Leveridge, Easter Seals Chair – Jill Drummond, ESA for St Jude Chair- Ramona Paine Means, ESA Foundation – Vivian Gibson, the Gold Link and Gold Seal Awards Chair – Robyn Ryan, the Outstanding Chapter Chair – Cheryl Young, the State Project - Amanda Lovell, Outstanding Youth Chair – Melissa Byrum, Philanthropic Chair – Linda Voss and Publicity Chair – Gina Wozencraft. Each of these ladies need contest forms and Judging sheets for their respective Chairmanships and it's my job to see that they have these tools by next year's convention. If all of the contests come off without a hitch, you'll know I did my job.



As your ESA for St. Jude Chairman please let me know what your chapter is doing for St. Jude as I would like to publicize your good works!

Plaudits to Judi and Steve York, Dr. Billye Peterson and Aletha Bolt and others for an outstanding job on the Oklahoma Dream Home Giveaways. The Open House for the Dream Homes have been cancelled due to Covid-19. The Dream Homes will be given away on August 2nd in Tulsa and August 27th in Oklahoma City.

Mary Humphrey, Sr. ESA for St. Jude Chair has a St Jude Virtual Challenge in her article that was published in the ESA IC Newsletter, May 2020 issue (check member center/ESA website. This is a wonderful idea to support the kids of St. Jude. Since we are spending time at home, social distancing and have free time this is a great way for your chapter to have some fun and make some money for a good cause.

I know some of you may be planning your individual chapter events for St. Jude. The St. Jude Event Forms can be downloaded from the ESA website.

If I can be of assistance at any time please contact me.

Ramona Paine, Chairman

rockingchair18@yahoo.com

ramona.paine@gmail.com

Note from Robbin Brown, 2020 State Convention Chair:

WOW!!! Has this year been a year we won't forget but we made it through the rough times and hopefully the worst is over? The 78th annual state convention will be July 31 – August 2. We were not able to cancel the convention and had to hold it this year or pay per the contract. We take this virus seriously and want everyone to be safe. Reed Center is working with us to make your stay as clean and safe as possible. The tables will be separated six feet with 5 chairs per table. I know this will separate some of the larger chapters but we feel this is the safest set-up at this time. There still is time to register for the "Black Tie Affair" and hope you consider attending. Everyone will receive a mask and sanitizers in the goodie bags. Please don't forget to make your reservations at the Sheraton Hotel at 405-455-1800. Ask for ESA convention.

See you all then!

Note from Vivian Gibson, ESA Foundation Counselor:

Everyone I will need your help again. I am asking each one of you to contact a school counselor in your area, family members or anyone you know who's in college or a high school graduate to tell them about all of the scholarships that the Foundation has available. They can go to the website epsilonsigmaalpha.org and sign up to be notified when the scholarships are available.

Please Consider becoming a Life Active Member. \$500 or two payments of \$250, in 2 monthly payments.

MARC Leadership Conference

As with many things in our lives right now, changes are happening. The annual MARC Leadership Conference has changed too.

While the Regional Councils have a brief meeting at IC Convention, the MARC Meeting will be a **virtual meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2020 starting at 6:30 p.m. CST via Zoom**. To allow privacy and protect against Zoom invaders, yes that is a real thing, the meeting information will be sent via email through one of our state distribution lists from me. Watch for it and please distribute to your chapter.

The MARC Leadership Conference has also changed and will be a **virtual meeting on Saturday, Oct. 10, 2020**. As information is available the Zoom information and time will also be distributed through email, not posted on Facebook or online. If you are unfamiliar with MARC this would be a good time to check it out and meet MARC members from the 12-states. Let's follow Linda's theme "Taking Chances".

Deb Hughes
OK Rep to MARC

Important Message from Linda Schmidt, MARC President

After a long discussion by the MARC Executive Board and looking at all possibilities, we made the decision to cancel our MARC Conference in Evansville, Indiana to ensure the health and safety of all of our members. This was not an easy decision for any of us and not one that we wanted.

There was discussion to wait and see if there was another uptick in COVID cases in the fall, as has been projected, or to decide now. One of the things we considered is the penalty we would be paying if we didn't meet our number of attendees, which is considerable. If we wait until July to cancel, we will need to pay a 15% penalty equaling almost \$1,500. The percentage increases incrementally until October where we will have to pay a substantial amount, between \$8,500 and \$9,000. MARC members worked hard over the years to raise this money, and we did not feel right about using your money to pay penalties.

I want to thank Mary Hougland and Peggy Zimmer, and all of the Indiana members who worked long hours to plan the 2020 MARC Conference. I know this is not the outcome they worked for, and I appreciate all their hard work to make this year's conference the best for us.

We have decided to hold a virtual MARC Conference on October 10th. We don't have all the details now, but the Exec Board and Committee Chairs will work hard to make this a fun and special meeting. Please allow us time to plan the details and we will let you know.

Also, we will be having a virtual meeting on Tuesday, August 4th to hold our meeting that we have an IC Convention. This will be an hour-long meeting, just like we have during IC Convention. Again, details will be forthcoming, but mark your calendars for Aug. 4th at 6:30 CST.

As I said in my acceptance speech last October, I asked you to begin Taking Chances and trying something different. Well that happened; we are all doing that together this year with virtual meetings and alternative ways to fundraise. We have learned how to Shelter in Place, and masks have become the norm. I believe that we will come out of this pandemic better women and men, and I'm proud to stand beside you, my special ESA friends.

Again, thank you for understanding. If you have any questions, concerns or comments please reach out to me.

Linda Schmidt- MARC President

ESA Foundation Grants

This has been a very unusual year for the Grants Program to say the least. Since schools have closed, conferences and training programs cancelled, we have not had an abundant of applicants or if they have applied have notified us, they have been put on hold due to the Corona virus.

The ESA Foundation Grants Program has been given a new fresh look and is now available for applicants to apply on the Foundation's website at <https://www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/scholarships-and-grants/grants>

The Career Enhancement Grants remain pretty much the same as they were originally intended and that is to provide funds to assist individuals who are seeking further educational experiences and training to develop their personal career skills and opportunities for career advancement.

The Art Spark Grant and the **Next Step Grant** have been combined and renamed the **Vocational Training Grants**. This grant provides opportunities to applicants seeking to develop skills for a new career or to enhance their skills and knowledge for further advancement in their chosen career field such as completing requirements to obtain a trade certification or apprenticeships. Veterans looking to re-enter the workforce and needing new or additional training in their field of interest is another good example.

This grant can also be used to promote programs and skills for training in the fine arts and those who are developing creative programs or projects that use elements of the fine arts to benefit returning military personnel.

Career Enhancement Grants and the Vocational Training Grants should not exceed \$2000. Applications for the Career Enhancement Grants will be reviewed quarterly. The Vocational Training Grants will be reviewed every six months. In the past they were reviewed and awarded as received, therefore funds were quickly depleted due to the overwhelming response of applicants and no deadlines were set. So, when applying, applicants will need to schedule according to their event registration deadline to ensure the committee has time to review and award the application in a timely manner. We have a budget for these grants and must abide by the funds available. We cannot over commit and need to be sensitive to the process in which the grants are given.

With so many jobs lost, if you know anyone that needs help to rejoin the workforce or has other needs described in this article please share this information with them. Criteria and more information for these grants can be found on the ESA Foundation's website or by contacting me at rosalie.griffith2@aol.com.

Rosalie Griffith, ESA Foundation Grants Chair



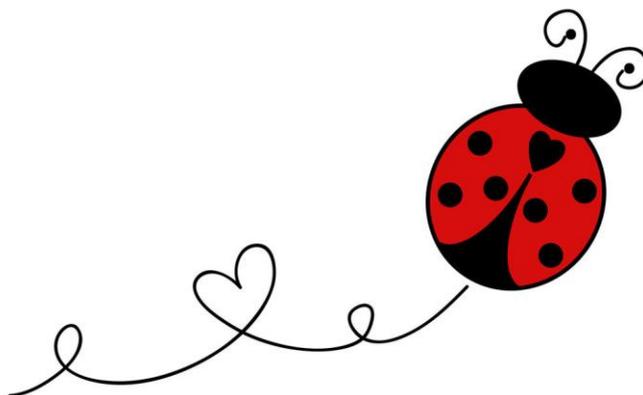
Hello Oklahoma Sisters – Hope everyone is staying safe. I miss being able to see you and giving hugs.

I hope when this is stable each chapter will be able to share ESA with your community.

Please go to epsilonsigmaalpha.org and view the neat video on community membership. This is great for showing possible members what ESA is about! I hope you will be able to be together soon!!

Let me know if I can be of any assistance.

Hugs – **Peggie Sprinkle**, 2020-21 OK Membership Chair



Outstanding Chapter

Hello Members!

I hope everyone is making the most of their time in quarantine, trying new recipes or maybe reading a book or other crafty things. I understand Pinterest is big right now!

I know that not having our normal meetings is going to slow things down for the Outstanding Chapter contest for next year, but please don't forget to keep track of everything and report it in a timely manner. Will remind everyone about deadlines later on!

Hope to see everyone soon!

Cheryl Young
Chairman

Chapter Chatter

Beta Gamma #0391 Tulsa

The members of Beta Gamma, Tulsa hopes everyone is doing well during the COVID-19 crisis of 2020. During this time we have been meeting virtually, thanks to Zoom and Judi York. While this works to take care of business, we are, like everyone, missing our fellowship that comes with our business and social meetings.

Judi and Steve York have been busy working the St. Jude Dream and have sold all available tickets. (Yes, I am going to give them the credit!)

Hopefully, things can get back to normal soon. I know everyone is missing their ESA sisters.

On a personal note, I want to thank everyone that sent cards and prayed for me after the loss of my nephew, Matthew Mullins. It has been the hardest thing to go through. I just want everyone to know that I appreciate you being there for me.

Cheryl Young

Beta Iota #4283 – McAlester

WOW!

it's been too many long months being separated and sheltering in place. Beta Iota has been Blessed, none of our members or loved ones have tested positive for Covid-19, despite the fact we have many members who are on the front lines providing health care in our community.

We participated in the OSB Tour and Eastern District Meeting/Instillation of officers. Deb Hughes did a "Mickey Mouse" job installing the 2020-2021 officers: Judi York, Coordinator, June Miller, Vice Coordinator, Gina Wozencraft, Secretary, Robyn Ryan, Treasurer and Tawanna Cathy, Parliamentarian.

Our last TOGETHER adventure was our annual Valentine Strawberry Fundraising Event. Collectively we washed, dried, dipped, drizzled, wrapped and delivered 120 dozen yummy strawberries to happy recipients



During our Sequestering the chapter has been working together, via Zoom, to elect our 2020-2021 officers. Amanda Lovell, will preside as President encouraging our membership to "Let Your Light Shine". She will be accompanied by Vice President, Annette Nichols, Treasurer, Tarra Singleton, Secretary, Sherry Cady, and Holly Stachmus, Parliamentarian. We are looking forward to finally having a face to face, or mask to mask get together and Installation at June Miller's on July 9.

Beta Iota **Congratulates** the 2020-2021 OK State Council Board, with our very own Mona Johnston, Conductor, who will be leading us in, "ESA Makes Beautiful Music". Accompanying her from Beta Iota will be June Miller, Corresponding Secretary, Amanda Lovell, Project Director, Lori Few Directory Chair, Margaret Kramer, Sr. Past President/Workshop Coordinator, Melissa Byrum, Skits and Tina McKamie 2021 Convention Chair. BI ladies are eagerly anticipating, being together, with our Oklahoma sisters celebrating at the Black-Tie Affair and the accomplishments of the "ESA Takes Hollywood" team. It's been a monumental year! See you on July 31, August 1 and 2 at the Reed Center in MWC.

Delta Kappa #3538- Norman

It's been an unusual time for Delta Kappa. We were not able to complete one year before starting the new 2020-2021 sorority year. It has been disappointing with having to postpone so many events to celebrate the end of Vivian Gibson's year as president. But we will adapt and rise above the challenges. We were able to elect the 2020-2021 officers by phone. They are Gwynn Nell Swanson, President; Nancy Buck, Vice President; Gloria Torres, Secretary; Janice Shockley, Treasurer; Doyleene Heaton, Educational Director; Georgia Smith, Ways Means; Helen Checorski, Philanthropic Katie Wamser, Parliamentarian. Congratulations to each of these dedicated and talented ladies who will lead Delta Kappa through another successful year.

Linda, Sharon, Gwynn Nell, Nancy, Gloria and Janice gathered at Goodrich Church to participate in Mona's first Okla. State Council meeting in June. It was nice to see each other and take part in the Zoom meeting to receive all of the much-needed information.

Several members of Delta Kappa are really looking forward to attending the Okla. State Convention on July 31, 2020 at the Reed Center in Midwest City. As one of the hostess chapters we want to welcome all of our ESA sisters to attend Linda's "Black Tie Affair". Because of COVID it will be a little different but we are still planning on lots of fun!!!! A big "Thank You" to Linda (2019-2020 State President) and Robbin Brown (Convention Chair) for their determination and dedication to continue to make the necessary arrangements after so many changes to plan a safe, fun and informative convention for everyone attending.

Until next timeStay well and stay safe!!!!

Janice Shockley

Nancy Buck is always in style for any occasion. She created this mask to protect her from COVID.



Eta Mu's Lovely Sister, Virginia Shadrick

As a few of my Eta Mu sisters and I stood in the viewing room paying our last respects to a beautiful woman, friend and sister I reflected on the last 30 years remembering the life and impact that Virginia Shadrick had played in the lives of her beloved chapter, Eta Mu.

Virginia was a red head wonder of a woman. She was tiny but mighty. She didn't have a lot to say about the small things in life but if it was important to her or Eta Mu she would give you her opinion and she would always have your back. She loved her family so very much and was always there to help them in every way possible. When she spoke of her son Joe and his family her eyes would light up with love and pride. She had brothers and a sister that she was very generous with also.

She was hard working to the end. Her and her first husband owned and operated a dairy farm in the 1950's in Owasso. After his death, she became a beautician and had a shop in downtown Owasso. She went from that to working for the Owasso school district as a cafeteria worker. After retiring from the school system, she started working for Walmart as a door greeter. She never wanted to quit working, but finally life and age caught up with her.

She was a very active member in Eta Mu. Her garage became our main source of income. We had many, many garage sales at her home and we would have to get on to her and her sister Ann for continually straightening and organizing the things we had to sell. She didn't know the meaning of quitting or giving up.

She was probably one of the luckiest people I have ever met. If she entered a drawing or contest nine times out of 10 she would win. She didn't care about the prize it was the winning that made her happy. Most of the time she would give the prizes away, repurpose them or donate them to our garage sale.

Yes, Virginia you will be solely missed and I will still look for you at meetings, parties and dinners with Eta Mu. I know that you are still with us because I feel you are watching over us from heaven and that your "little light of mine" will shine on forever. As long as there is an Eta Mu, a chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha we will keep the ray from the lamp of learning burning in your memory.



The sisters of Tulsa's Gamma Delta chapter share in the loss of ESA's legacy member, Byrdie Emanuel.

A member of Epsilon Sigma Alpha for over 43 years, Byrdie's participation in and love for her service organization was apparent in all the ways she nurtured and guided her chapter, Gamma Delta. A gentle and loving person, Byrdie served ESA in many capacities, through deed and support of chapter events, conferences and in volunteering. Byrdie was an ESA Foundation Life Active member and held many offices throughout her tenure with ESA including Tulsa Council President (1985 and 2015) and District 3 Coordinator. Daughter of ESA member, Veda Gish, Byrdie embraced the organization's themes and made each event she attended better for simply being there. Thank you, Byrdie, for your guiding, joyous, loving example; and for elevating all of Gamma Delta's service endeavors on behalf of Epsilon Sigma Alpha.



Sigma Chi Inola #5053

Sigma Chi had a successful year of accomplishments, we donated to the State Project Fund, Eastern District Project, Disaster Fund, OSD Adopted Child, OSB Adopted Child, St. Jude Run, Inola PD, Inola Fire Dept. Inola Cheerleaders, Inola Back to School Block Party and the Veterans Day Celebration at the Elementary School.



On May 30th we had our Installation of officers for the 2020-21 year. The social/installation was held outdoors at the home of Susan Patterson's son. We had a nice cookout, with side dishes, beverages and dessert provided by the chapter. Awards were presented to Sue Knight for 45 years of Service, Charlene Law, 30 years and Marge Stevens for 15 years. Rosalie Griffith presented Charlene Law with her Fifth Degree Pallas Athene Award.

Dawn Haley, Gamma Delta Member did the Installation for President Charlene Law, Ellen Miller, Vice President, Sue Knight, Treasurer, Susan Patterson, Educational Director and Marge Stevens Secretary. Her installation adapted Charlene's theme "Chance Made Us Sisters, Hearts Made Us Friends." Peggie Sprinkle also attended our social/Installation.

Zeta Gamma #4253- Shawnee

The members of Zeta Gamma are excited to get this year started. This virus is not going to keep us down. We are so excited that our wonderful sister Lola is back with our chapter after 9 long months away from us. We really missed her. The officers were installed by Lora Thompson with Gwen Beasley as President. Her theme this year is "Continue the Journey". Vice president is Robbin Brown, Treasurer Lola Jaegers, Recording Secretary Peggy Campbell and Parliamentarian is Patty Heer. Gwen received her 30-year pin from Robbin. After everyone enjoyed nachos and cake.
YUMM!



TULSA AREA COUNCIL NEWS

Tulsa Area Council President Rosalie Griffith conducted the June 3rd meeting via Zoom with 16 members in attendance. Steve and Judi York have been conducting all St. Jude Dream Home business from their home since the start of the campaign. All 12,000 tickets for the August 2nd Giveaway have been sold! A huge thanks to the York's for their dedication.

Our yearly Bunco Bash has been moved from July 24th to October 16th if we are still able to hold it at Highland Park Christian Church. Stay tuned for updates in upcoming PJ editions.

Submitted by; Linda Jones, TAC Publicity Chair



TULSA AREA COUNCIL



EVENT TO BENEFIT



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
Tulsa



St. Jude Children's
Research Hospital
ALSAC • Danny Thomas, Founder

Friday October 16, 2020

6:00 pm

Highland Park Christian Church

5708 E 31st St, Tulsa, OK

Cost is \$20.00 per player

Refreshments will be served at 6:00 pm.

Bunco will begin at 6:30.

There will be Raffle items with proceeds going
to our benefiting charities

Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00

There will be prizes for the first Bunco for a player,
most wins, most losses and most Buncos

RSVP to: Judi York – judikay@cox.net

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77th ANNUAL OKLAHOMA STATE CONVENTION "BLACK TIE AFFAIR"

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020

1:00-5:00 REGISTRATION & HOSPITALITY ROOM
1:00-5:00 ASSOCIATION OF ARTS CHECK-IN
1:00-5:00 SILENT AUCTION CHECK-IN
5:30-7:00 EXECUTIVE/GENERAL BOARD DINNER
7:30-???? MIXER, SILENT AUCTION & SKITS
10:30 pm-MIDNIGHT HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2020:

7:45-8:20 FIRST TIME, PLEDGES
8:30 FLAG CEREMONY
8:45 CALL FOR SEATING
9:00 1st GENERAL ASSEMBLY CALL TO ORDER/OPENING RITUAL
12:00-2:30 AWARDS LUNCHEON
2:30-3:15 BREAK
3:30-4:30 WORKSHOP
5:00 INSTALLATION REHERSAL HOSPITALITY ROOM
6:30-???? INSTALLATION & BANQUET
HOSPITALITY ROOM OPEN AFTER BANQUET TILL MIDNIGHT

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2020

8:00-8:25 JERRY'S PICTURES
8:30-9:00 MEMORIAL SERVICE
9:00-NOON 2ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY/CLOSING RITUAL & RETIRING THE FLAGS
NOON TO??? GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SALE JERRY'S PICTURE

