

Oklahoma State Council 2022- 2023 Petticoat Journal

Linda Jones, President

"ESA Shine Bright Like a Diamond"

Volume 71 Issue 3

December/January

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From the desk of...

Linda Jones, 2022-2023 State Council President

By the time this article is published, we will be past our successful MARC 2022 Conference and into full holiday mode. I want to take some time to thank everyone who helped make the Conference a success. I am super proud of Oklahoma State Council. You volunteered, filled in for others, greeted, set up, tore down, gave prizes and made all our guests feel welcomed. I heard so many positive remarks about all aspects of the weekend. Oklahoma ESA Council is AWESOME!

Now that the weather is cooling down, I hope each chapter is thinking about nominating an Outstanding student, a DAA recipient and preparing items for the Association of the Arts. Make sure you are reporting all your chapter hours, monies donate and presenting Educationals.

We won't have another State Council meeting until March 11th. We will be meeting at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Edmond. Thanks to Dr. Billye Putnam and Gamma Zeta who will host the lunch. More details later.

Don't forget to get your registration in for the 2023 State Convention as we celebrate 80 years of Oklahoma ESA Conventions.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah and Happy New Year!

Keep Shining Bright!

Linda.jones93@gmail.com



'ESA SHINE BRIGHT LIKE A DIAMOND"



Message from Patty Heer, 1st Vice-President

Patty Heer 1st Vice-President OK State Council

Oh, the Places We Will Go!

Wow, where has the year gone!

OK ESA needs you! You are an important part of a strong functioning organization. You are the link to making this happen.

Say YES and join the 2023-2024 OK ESA State Council Executive Board or the General Board and come along on "The Journey".

The nominating committee is looking forward to your call, text, or email.

The nominating committee members are Linda Leveridge, Brenda Yates, Jakki Gantz, Sandy Lackey, Dawn Haley and me.

Wherever you fly, you'll be the best of the best. Wherever you go you will top all the rest. So be sure when you step, step with care and great tact. And remember that life's a Great Balancing Act. And you may ask "will I succeed"? Yes, you will, indeed! (98 and ¾ percent guaranteed).

From my family to yours "Wishing you a very Blessed holiday season"!

Patty Heer 1st Vice President Oklahoma ESA State Council 405.203.0000 PJLWHR@AOL.COM

'ESA SHINE BRIGHT LIKE A DIAMOND"

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First, I want to thank everyone for submitting your articles in a timely manner. I apologize for The lateness of this issue, unfortunately I was having some computer issues. Your articles tell me so much of the news happening in your chapters as well as keeping us informed of your positions on the board.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and was able to spend time with family and or friends, It is hard to believe how close Christmas is as well the New Year, I hope we all remember the reason for the season!

Charlene Law PJ Editor



Ladies, Christmas is fast approaching and so is the new year. We have been so busy planning for Bob's upcoming year as Potentate. More work than I ever dreamed of and definitely more than my year as State President. I am enjoying being the Jr Past President and Disaster fund chair.

I want to remind everyone to make sure your chapter will make a Donation to the Disaster Fund. If your chapter already has, then thank you. April 1st is the deadline, so it gets counted and awards can be calculated. If I am wrong, I will update in the next issue.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all! Sandy Lackey Past State President Disaster Chairman

Darlene Cushenberry Eastern District Coordinator

"Making a Difference"



District Meeting will be held on February 25, 2023 Location: Highland Christian Park Church

Time: Registration 9:30
Meeting: 10:00
Lunch: 12:00
Cost: \$12:00

RSVP to Darlene Cushenberry dcushenber@aol.com

Eastern District Treasurer, Charlene Law

District dues deadline is January 1st, dues may be mailed to me at:

25206 South Shepherd Dr., Claremore, OK 74019-0263

I may be reached at 918-629-4990

or at: claw45@cox.ne

Chaplain - Peggie Sprinkle



Prayers and Cards sent:

- 1. Passing of Marcia Ellington, Gamma Zeta to husband Jerry
- 2. Tom Cantrel (Jacque's husband, Gamma Zeta) heart surgery
- 3. Steve Sparkman (Jacci's husband, Gamma Zeta) eye surgery
- 4. Dewayne Simpson (Ruth's husband, Gamma Zeta) diagnosis melanoma
- 5. Passing of Velma Ann McQuire Eta Mu Chapter
- 6. Passing of husband of Mary Kech Beta Rho Chapter
- 7. Sandi Robinson, Gamma Zeta clot on lung
- 8. Glenda Petty, Delta Epsilon knee replacement
- 9. Tammy Ramirez, Kappa Theta blood clots both lungs
- 10. Mary Clark, Kappa Theta diagnosis cancer





Tulsa Area Council Chapters (Beta Gamma, Eta Mu, Gamma Delta, Kappa Alpha & Sigma Chi) plus Alpha Rho, Broken Arrow are excited to be hosting the 2023 Oklahoma State Council Convention

The convention will be April 28 & 29, 2023, Marriott Tulsa Southern Hills-1903 E 71st St, Tulsa, OK 74136 Phone 918/493-7000

Room rate is \$121.00 for King or Double/Double Free parking & Breakfast included for 2 per room

Registration is \$135 for members, which includes the Friday Mixer, Recognition Luncheon, and Banquet

Men's registration is \$90 and includes the mixer and banquet. Banquet guests are \$65

We have lots of fun and surprises for you. You won't want to miss the 80th Annual Oklahoma State Council Convention, "ESA...The stars come out"

Enclose Check Payable to: 2023 ESA Oklahoma State Council Convention

Oklahoma State Council 80th Annual Convention

"ESA – The Stars Come Out"

April 28 & 29, 2023

Marriott Southern Hills Hotel Tulsa, OK - Phone: 918-493-7000

Hotel Registration Deadline Saturday, April 1, 2023

REQUEST THE GROUP RATE FOR "EPSILON SIGMA ALPHA"

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	phone text email			
CHAPTER NAME:	CHAPTER NUMBER: CITY:			
CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:				
CHAPTER PRESIDENT	1ST TIME CONVENTION GOER 2021/2022 PLEDGE			
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER	GENERAL BOARD MEMBER SOONER SENIORET		E	
CURRENT/PREVIOUS IC OFFICER	CURRENT/PREVIOUS ESAF BRD			
SPECIAL DIET MENU/MEDICAL RE	EASONS ONLY ** CONTAC	CT <u>: Dawn Haley</u>	at dmhaley4@yahoo.com	
MEN'S REGISTRATION:		HUSBAND/ESCO	NDT OF	
NAME:	[TUSBAND/ESCC	JKT OF.	
ELAN REGISTRATION:	I			
ELAN REGISTRATION: NAME:	E: ESA MEMBER/CHAPTER:			
GUEST REGISTRATION:				
NAME:	C	GUEST OF:		
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	FDATION EEE includes E	Friday Night Mix		VIVIANT
	MEMBERS/ELAN FULL REGISTRATION FEE includes Friday Night Mixer/Dinner, General Assemblies, Workshops, Recognition Luncheon & Saturday Night Banquet			
MEN'S/GUEST REGISTRATION FEE includes Friday Night Mixer/Dinner & Saturday Banquet				\$90.00
GUEST BANQUET REGISTRATION FEE (Saturday Night)			\$65.00	
LATE FEE OF \$25 WILL BE AS will need to call Dawn Haley at		•	r April 1, 2023, you	
		-		
Total PAYMENT				

Mail to; Dawn Haley

417 East C Street, #117

Jenks, OK 74037

Registration Deadline: Registration deadline is Friday, March 31, 2023. Registrations postmarked after March 31st will be assigned seating where vacancies exist. Late registrants may not be able to be seated with their chapter

MARRIOT SOUTHERN HILLS HOTEL REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 1. 2023 CALL NOW! Phone: 918-493-7000. Be sure to mention you are with ESA.

Program Advertising Order Form

Ad Purchaser's Name			Mailing Address:	
Ad Purchaser's Name		City:		Zip:
Phone:		Email		
Full Page Ad \$100 _				
Half Page Ad \$50				
Quarter Page Ad \$25				
Business Card Ad \$15				
This form must accompany each AD ordered	ed!			
Checks should be made payable to - 2023	ESA State C	Council Convention	ı	
Total Amount Enclosed \$ Enclosed: Yes No	Cash	Check	Camera Ready Mate	erial
I need help to prepare AD: Yes No_				
(please send wording along with this form)				
Send orders to: Brenda Yates				
Phone: (918) 381-3629				
Email: brendayates1965@gmail.com				
1102 N. Story Ave.				
Wagoner, OK 74467				



ESA Members, please remember that Hope for Heroes Week falls the week of Veteran's Day in November. All chapters are encouraged to hold a special program or event during the week to support military members, their families or veterans.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE! SHOW YOUR SUPPORT!

Head to stores that give deals to veterans to show your support.

Visit a Museum - Go to a museum with your family to learn about our nation's history and those who fought for it.

Attend a Celebration - Your local VA or VFW might host a Veterans Day celebration that you can attend or even volunteer at.

- Wear a Poppy and Attend an Event. ...
- Sit Down and Talk with a Veteran. ...
- Volunteer at a VA Hospital. ...
- Hold a Care Package Party. ...
- Help Educate Students About Veterans Day. ...
- Invite a Veteran to Speak with Students. ...
- Hold A Fundraiser. ...
- Write a Letter
- Treat them to a treat. Consider honoring and recognizing veterans at your meeting by hosting a
- lunch in their honor. ...
- Recognize them. ...share their story. ...serve the family. ...
- Serve the community.

Jacque Cantrel State Educational Director

By the time you read this article we will be into the holidays. That means turkey/ham for Thanksgiving and Ham/Scalloped Potatoes for Christmas. I do hope each and everyone enjoys their holiday time with family and friends. It is also my wish for all to be safe and stay healthy.

Now, let us not forget it is seriously time to start sending me **ONE** (1) educational on my State theme "Route 66 Diners/Drive-ins, East to West Coast". When you send me one State Educational Report Form (found on our website) along with a summary of your educational, it will qualify you/your chapter for the **Gold Link Award**. In order to qualify for the **GOLD SEAL AWARD**, you must compile a minimum of 6(six) Educationals you presented throughout the year. Just remember you will receive more points if you submit 9(nine) educationals in a 3-ring notebook. Please read the guidelines for entry on our website. By submitting 9, it will also entitle you to more points for the Outstanding Chapter and of course recognition at our State Convention.

I am looking forward to reading your educational reports. As of date, I have heard from 3 chapters !!!!!!

THE BIG TEXAN STEAK RANCH

The Big Texan feeds almost half a million people each year from all over the world. It has been featured in countless TV shows, movies, magazines, and newspapers throughout the United States, Asia, Europe and Australia. Countless movies and sitcoms have featured the World Famous FREE 72 oz. steak dinner (if eaten in 1 hour).

The Big Texas Steak Ranch has received many honors such as being named to MAXIM Magazine's list of Top 10 Steak Houses I America. Their steaks are carefully aged for maximum flavor, and the aroma from the grill will have your mouth watering as soon as you enter our huge dining room.

Since opening on Route 66, the Big Texas has remained owned and operated by the Lee family. After his death, founder R.J. Lee passed the business down to his two sons, Bobby and Danny Lee. Taking what they learned from their father, the pair ran and grew the family business into the iconic restaurant that it is today. The pair also have two sons each who also run and grow the business this very day.

The Big Texan has always kept its doors open to travelers from all over the world. In those exciting days of the Old West, few things were more important to weary travelers than a good watering hole. They have done their best at the Big Texan to provide the right libation to any thirst.

Some of the past history is as follows:

March, 1960, Founder R.J. Lee opens Big Texan in the old Underwood's Bar-B-Q location on Route 66. The steakhouse featured a western horseback mounted cowboy greeting guest and a towering 60 foot neon cowboy sign.

In November, 1960, The Big Texan host a 1 hour steak challenge: featuring 12 eaters competing for \$60, and bragging rights. The winner devours 4-1/2 pounds (72oz) of steak, baked potato, salad, shrimp cocktail and a bread roll. RJ Lee proclaims, "Anyone that can consume the steak challenge winners eating accomplishment-in one hour – gets it for FREE.

In September, 1963, 445 lbs Professional Wrestler: Klondike Bill eats 2-72oz dinners in one hour. Big Texan manager Boog Wallace warns observing patrons to keep arms, legs and children back away from the table.

June, 1964 – The Big Texan business and notoriety continues to grow. R. J. Lee expands his offerings by purchasing a 7 acre tract of land on the old Dallas highway. The land was several miles east of the city limits and would be used for a weekend beer tavern he named the Outpost. Amarillo liquor laws prohibited sales inside the city limits on the weekends. Little did Lee know that this land purchase would save the Big Texan.

September, 1969 – With the help of his wife Mary Ann and sons Bobby and Danny he begs/borrows and uses his last dollar to move and rebuild his Big Texan on the newly purchased land.

April, 1971 – The new facility included the nostalgic Route 66 charm, early Panhandle memorabilia Items, strolling musicians, gift shop, old west saloon and the famed 72oz challenge. The outside façade featured a rustic western storefront. RJ Lee soon added a 300 seat banquet hall to meet the demand for private events and overflow seating.

July, 1976 – A devastating early morning fire destroyed the Big Texan. Lost in the inferno was the dining room, gift shop, antiques, artifacts, furniture and fixtures from original Route 66 location. Fortunately the disaster spared the 300 seat banquet hall that served as a temporary Big Texan until Lee was able to rebuild the main dining hall.

January, 1978 – RJ Lee rebuilt his new Big Texan in a fashion that can only be described as a Texas masterpiece. It featured two story seating for 480 guest, huge gift shop, arcade and many special elements from all his past Big Texans. He incorporated the 300 banquet hall as the main entrance. 72oz challengers were now seated on a center stage, so that all patrons could watch the contestants take on the GREAT STEAK OF TEXAS.

November, 1983 – RJ Lee opens a Big Texan Motel across parking lot from steakhouse. Naturally, It featured "Disney-Style" old west facades, western themed rooms and a Texas shaped swimming pool.

February, 1990 – The Big Texas founder R.J. Lee passes away. His sons Bobby and Danny have to take over operations. Their pledge is 100% commitment to keeping the Big Texan true to its unique Texas mystique, original recipes, quality in food-service, traditions and the addition of more entertainment.

January, 1993 – The Big Texan expands its entertainment offerings with the debut of the Big Texas Opry, strolling musicians and dinner-shows. Successful publicity campaigns attract coverage from Worldwide networks and several **Hollywood movies** are filmed at the Big Texan.

2008 – The Travel Channel premieres a new show that would become an instant worldwide sensation called **Man vs Food.** Its debut Show features the show host taking on the **Big Texans 72oz Steak Challenge**. The worldwide success of the show established the 72oz Steak Challenge as the top eating contest in the world.

2010 – The Lee Brothers and brew master Tom Money began **brewing and serving craft beer onsite**. The beer experience was an instant hit and was recognized by Draft Magazine as one the world's Top Ten.

2016 – After much negotiation, the Big Texan acquires the **Amarillo RV Ranch**, now known as the Big Texan RV Ranch. The RV park features an indoor heated pool and free wifi.

2016 – A 128 lb housewife named, Molly Schuyler grabbed national headlines when she consumed **3-72oc steak dinners in 20 minutes**. She was about to start eating on a fourth but the Lee brothers called: calf rope.!

2020 – The Lee brothers try their hand in the music business. The pair created the **Starlight Ranch Music Venue**

Big names and bands have performed at the venue such as Kevin Fowler, Travis Tritt, Aaron Watson, and Asleep at the Wheel.

March 21st, 2020 – The Coronavirus forced the restaurant into its longest shut-down since 60 years of Business. On May 9th, the state of Texas allowed the reopening at 50% occupancy and soon 100%. The crowds packed back in and business went back to usual.

2021 – With the changing times in the hospitality industry, the Lee brothers decided it was time to update their fathers motel. The pair sought out the best AIRBNB Super host in the country and agreed to partnership to update and convert the rooms into an AIRBNB.

As you can see the Big Texan Steak Ranch has been very successful even through challenges and is still busy today as was in the past years.

It is located at 7701 Interstate 40 East Access Rd, Amarillo, TX 79118. The restaurant, still located on **Route 66**, is open from 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

ROUTE 66 CLASSIC DINER

Route 66 Diner was opened 16 years ago by Chrystal Pannell. It is a family restaurant and they strive to give good service and good food. They are a local family and have lived in Rockwall for over 40 years. It is their desire to make you feel like family from the moment you enter.

The diner is located at 206 W. Rusk St, Rockwall, TX. They serve breakfast, lunch and dinner featuring, eggs, omelets, pancakes and country ham for breakfast, burgers for lunch including a keto burger and patty melts, plus stuffed jalapenos, dinner includes platers of Fried Chicken Livers or Gizzards.

Catfish, Port Chops, etc. and Mexican dinners. They also have a kids menu.

Still in business today and family owned. It would be worth the drive there!!!!

State Educational Director Jacque Cantrel

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From the desk of your State Project Director Liz King

First of all, I would like to thank each of the chapters that have forwarded monies for the children at Oklahoma School for the Deaf and Oklahoma School for the Blind. I am hoping to forward what is needed to each school by the second week in December so each Director and Staff members will be able to assist when needed for each child to use their gift cards. Additional funds are still needed at this time to reach our goal.

I also want to thank those sisters that helped to represent ESA on A Day with OSD on Saturday, October 29th. Those of us that participated enjoyed a volleyball game, informative tour and better incite as to what is really going on at Oklahoma School for the Deaf. Gamma Zeta Chapter Edmond also viewed the bench that was dedicated to Jo Rott our ESA sister because she so loved so many of the OSD students.

Additional needs were revealed so I am asking Aletha Bolt to send out a request for individuals that are willing to be a part of a list to help when a need arises and this will be strictly volunteer donations from various individuals when called upon. This request is separate from the Chapter donation.

Thank you for your support and if you have any questions, please call me at 405-429-9534

ST. JUDE DONATION FORM



Please returned to the ESA for St. Jude Office accompanying donation. Make checks payable to: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Instructions:

All information is necessary to process this form. Additional copies are available at www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org.

Individual Donation Name of Donor:	ridual Donation e of Donor: Member Number:		
Chapter Donation Chapter(s) Donating: CHAPTER #	CHAPTER NAME	PERCENTAGE OF CREDIT	
TOTAL AMOUNT \$	☐ In Memory of ☐ In Honor of ☐ Donation Only		
Send memorial/honorarium o	ard to:		
Name:	Address:		
City/State/Zip:			
ESA for St. Jude office.	on (note: this donation must be new n		

There has been some confusion about when Foundation dues are due. Dues paid <u>from March 1 – Dec 31, 2022</u>, are for voting in 2023. So, if your dues have not been paid, please get them in.

Next year, the dues cycle changes to align with the calendar year. Dues paid <u>Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2023</u>, will be for voting in 2024.

Questions, please contact me.

Vivian Gibson
ESA Foundation State Counselor

Happy Holidays!

Our Oklahoma ESA ladies have so much talent. I would love everyone to share your talent and show it off during the 2023 Oklahoma State Convention! I've seen so many great paintings, needlepoint, quilting, etc. on social media by our members! We added two new categories, in keeping with the IC Association of the Arts form. Division X for the 50th Anniversary of St. Jude and Division XI for the 80th Anniversary of ESA Oklahoma. I am attaching a copy of the form in this issue of the PJ, so take a look at all the categories. The deadline to submit your entry form to Charlotte Smith is April 1st.

Blessings for the holidays and throughout the New Year!

Dawn Haley & Charlotte Smith
Cochairs – Association of the Arts
210-685-8474 918-639-7078
dmhaley4@yahoo.com n2ou48@aol.com

ASSOCIATION OF THE ARTS ENTRY FORM - OKLAHOMA

NAME	PHONE		
ADDRESS_	CITY	ZIP	
CHAPTER NAME	DESA: Yes or No	CHAPTER NO	
(Indicate your area of par	ticipation. Up to two (2) entries per r	member may be entered.)	
Division I (Visual Arts) Oil Painting or Acrylics Drawings, Pastel or Charcoal Watercolors Sculpture Pottery DIVISION II (Photography) Black & White or Color Photo Graphic Design Computer Assisted Design DIVISION III (Crafts – Painted Art) Tole Painting Painted Pottery China Painting Porcelain Calligraphy (matted for display) Fabric Painting		anger/Silk Ribbon tch anger/Silk Ribbon tch All types day – Ornaments & Decorations) nposition – Literary or Musical)	
DIVISION IV (Crafts – Mixed Media) JewelryRubber StampingDecoupageGlassWoodFloral ArrangementsSoapBasketsCandlePaper Making	DIVISION X (50 TH A) Any art exhibiting DIVISION XI (80 TH A)	President Division) raining to the President's Theme Anniversary of St Jude Division) g St. Jude Anniversary of ESA Oklahoma) ng to ESA OK State Conventions	

The Clara Vaughn "Dream Award" will be presented to the chapter with the highest percentage of member participation.

DEADLINE - ENTRY FORMS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY APRIL 1.

The rules for ALL divisions are as follows:

- 1) Up to two (2) entries per Division per member may be entered.
- 2) An item can be entered one time only (if entered the previous year, it may not be entered in a subsequent year).
- 3) Although security precautions will be enforced, we are not covered by casualty insurance should damages or theft occur.

SEND ENTRY FORM TO: Charlotte Smith

2912 East 102nd Street Tulsa, OK 74137 (918) 639-7078

n2ou48@aol.com or assocofthearts@oklaesa.org

CHAPTER CHATTER

TULSA AREA COUNCIL

Members gathered items to send our troops with the Wagoner County Blue Star Mothers. On Tuesday November 15, a few of our members were able to attend their meeting and help with sorting and boxing up items. Our members are also looking forward to our Candlelight Social this year. December 10 we will be celebrating our 2022 year of Activities and installing our new officers for 2023. This year we have decided to do a luncheon and with our beloved Freddie's Steakhouse closing, we have made plans at the Embassy Suites in Tulsa where our last year's convention was held. We would like to wish all of our ESA Members a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.





Peggie Sprinkle- parliamentarian, Mara Wheeler- Treasurer, Linda Jones-Secretary, Gina Wozencraft- V President,

Judi York- President, Rosalie Griffith- installation Officer



Gamma Zeta's Friendship Dinner



Gamma Zeta's Ringing the Salvation Army Bell

The picture below is the spooks and goblins that organized 18 big boxes of Halloween costumes in early Oct. at Goodrich Church. The costumes were free to the church members, schools, the community and other organizations. As you can see we had fun dressing up Too!!! Our DK bowling team, Faye, Linda, Georgia and Maria have almost reached a professional status, NOT.

They have however improved enough where they didn't get a trophy for last place. You can tell by the pic below they are a happy bunch of bowlers!!

Until next time-----stay safe, warm and joyful to be celebrating the holiday season with family and friends.



Janice Shockley for Delta Kappa

Beta Zeta-Oklahoma City started a new volunteer activity at the Oklahoma Blood Institute (OBI) this fall. Several times a month we meet at OBI and get bags labeled and organized to be used at Mobile Blood Drives. We're enjoying the opportunity to visit while we work and go to lunch afterwards. It's the perfect ESA volunteer activity! The boxes behind us in the photo each contain 36 bags. So far, Stormy is the most proficient. She can prep 5 boxes to my 3!

L to R in photo are chapter members Susan Douglas, Nancy Galloway, Stormy Simmons and Aletha Bolt. Also pictured is Theta Tau-Kingfisher member Cathy Holsted who volunteers with us quite often as she lives in Oklahoma City now. Stormy is a dual member of both Beta Zeta and Theta Tau!

Aletha Bolt, President Beta Zeta-Oklahoma City



Beta Gamma members enjoyed the MARC conference. So much Route 66! And continuing with that theme, we took a field trip and had a Saturday morning Route 66 breakfast at Ollie's. Yum! We also had fun making spooky tootsie roll pops (or tootsie roll pops spooky) to give away. Holidays, here we come...



ESA's Gamma Delta Chapter Supports Man's Best Friend

Members of Tulsa's Gamma Delta chapter of ESA presented a check for \$545 to support the organization, "G.I. Wishes", a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose program, "A Pet For a Vet", is dedicated to serving rescue animals with military veterans and their families. This organization has formed strategic alliances with shelters, animal rescue organizations, veterinarians and veterans' organizations. Started in 2011, "GI Wishes" has no paid staff members, and <u>ALL</u> donations go directly into assisting the animals by covering veterinary costs, sheltering, and feeding them to ensure the health of the pet. GI Wishes serves 150 veterans a year with their pets, which gives new meaning to the old phrase, "a boy and his dog." For more information, or, to donate, visit GIWishes.org or call, 918-747-0008.

Pictured: Pet For A Vet Founder, Rob Wheeler, and wife, Jeanie, Gamma Delta Member



Zeta Gamma, Shawnee

We have been a bit busy. Robbin Brown hosted her home and garage for a 3-day garage sale. Whew, lots of items and lots of work but, in the end our treasury is a bit on the fatter side.

Patty Heer is organizing and learning all she can for her upcoming year as president and we are looking forward to helping her as much as possible.

MARC conference is over and boy oh boy was that a fun weekend. I do believe that Linda, Patty, Peggy, and I will attend more MARC conferences. We even had time to go to Talley's diner and enjoy some fabulous food.

Thanks

Gwen Beasley

Gamma Zeta worked in connection with Fink's Allstate Insurance Company donating items for Fostering Sweet Dreams Foundation, a non-profit that provides tangible needs such as beds, linens, car seats, high chairs, and strollers to foster children.

Gamma Zeta, an Epsilon Sigma Alpha international service organization, donated twin bed sheet sets, crib sheets, blankets, pillows, and pillowcases for Sweet Dreams. These are jus a few of the tangible needs that need to be met for foster children. Currently 9,854 children ages 6 - 17 are in Oklahoma foster care with 1,700 of that total in Oklahoma County alone.

Gamma Zeta has worked with several organizations this year: Coffee Creek Riding Stables, Free to Live, Salvation Army, Boys' Ranch Town, and U R Special. State projects are Oklahoma School for the Deaf in Sulphur, Oklahoma, which has 150 students, and Oklahoma School for the Blind in Muskogee, Oklahoma has 88 students. Epsilon Sigma Alpha works with both schools. Our national project is St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.



Pam Fink, Gamma Zeta member, delivered articles to the Fostering Sweet Dreams Foundation.

Gamma Zeta and volunteers were getting the final boxes ready to send to the troops overseas. Working were Liz King, Col.(ret) Jim Putnam, Dr. Billye Putnam, and Theresa Epperly and Lydia, her daughter.

The Hugs Project was started in June 2004 by Ray and Karen Stark in Edmond, Ok as a labor of love. They wanted to make sure every American service member knows he or she is loved and appreciated by those who remain at home enjoying the freedom the soldiers provide.

America still has over 10,000 deployed troops in Iraq, as well as Honduras, the Ukraine, Jordan Poland, Romania, Kuwait, Cuba, Africa, etc. They are having trouble getting supplies because the stores are not being restocked. The US Military does not want to leave tons of supplies for whoever comes in next so even basic items are hard to come by.





