

ECHOES

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By Alpha Alpha

Spring 2016

Another year is winding down. It has been great being able to be your Echoes editor/publisher. Thank you for being so patient with me. This is being typed one handed as I had shoulder surgery on the 4th of March and am still doing the one wing thing.

ESA is a great program and I have met so many nice people while being a part of it. It is nice to have so many friends. I am looking forward to being out in Hot Springs with you all for two days.

Dear SD ESA Members:

Well, my year as your 2015-2016 SD ESA State President is quickly wrapping up. I have so appreciated this opportunity to learn and walk beside all of you since last May. I self-proclaim I am not good at sending cards like I should but please know I think of all of you often and keep you in my thoughts and prayers always-in times of happiness and times of sorrow.

Thank you to the chapters who extended a warm invitation and welcome and included me in a chapter event or quick get together. I enjoyed a summer social and the tour of tables in Winner, a nice supper with members from Alpha Chi in Dell Rapids, walking with Theta Omega in their Relay for Life event in Vermillion, donating items to Alpha Alpha in support of their event for the Children's Inn, volunteering for the St. Jude Radio-A-Thon with my Chi Omega chapter, and being included in several events with Iota Pi. Timing did not work to meet up with Alpha Sigma, Lambda Lambda, and Alpha Lambda in person but I appreciate all you do each and every day and look forward to seeing everyone at state convention!

I would like to say a special "thank you" to Ashley for your wonderful spring leadership meeting. I have heard so many wonderful comments. Thank you to all in attendance for your support of Ashley and for your patience and understanding with my attendance by phone.

Please continue to consider serving on the state board for 2016-2017. Positions remain open. Please feel free to contact me, Ashley, or any ESA member if you have questions. Let me know how I can help support you.

Look forward to seeing you all at state convention.

Love in ESA-

Amber Heinert, SD State Council President

Ashley Augspurger, Vice President

Hello everyone! For those who weren't able to attend my leadership presentation in Winner, expect more information at Convention in April! The weather in Denver during my 5-day visit was more than favorable. This year's leadership focus was on generational differences, goals for the upcoming year, and how to hold events that appeal to multiple generations. I met a lot of new friends and networked with other ESA members across the U.S. I highly recommend everyone go to Leadership at least once just to get the full experience!! Incoming IC President, Sherry Day, chose her theme as " *Dream Big in ESA,* " and my 2016 2017 State Presidency theme is: " *Be a Star in ESA... Individually Unique, Together Complete!*"

Reminders for Convention:

- Prepare skits for Friday night
- Bring completed chapter event pages for Amber's scrapbook

Running for 2016-2017 State Office:

- Vice President/President Elect: ? still in need
- Corresponding Secretary: Rachel Furness, Beta Alpha
- Parliamentarian: Tia DeSersa, Beta Alpha
- Recording Secretary: Melanie Niehus, Beta Alpha
- Treasurer: ? still in need
- Chaplain: Sheri Rozeboom-Kloes, Alpha Alpha

I look forward to seeing everyone on April 29th & 30th in Hot Springs!!!!

Ashley Augspurger, Webmaster

The ESA website and Facebook page are continuously updated as information is received. Anyone who needs information posted to either can email me at sodakesa@gmail.com .

Rachel Furness, Recording Secretary

Hi everyone! I just wanted to take this chance to say what a great year it has been, and how much I have enjoyed being Recording Secretary and being a part of Amber's state board. It has been a fun and crazy year, and so much has happened throughout the state. It always fills me with such pride to see the differences all of my fellow ESA sisters have been making in their communities and in our state. Even though this year is coming to a close, and I will no longer be the Recording Secretary, I have agreed to be the Corresponding Secretary for Ashley Augspurger during her coming year as President. I am very excited about a new year and all of the opportunities and possibilities that come along with it.

Easter Seals:

Please send Easter Seals reports to Michelle Mueller-Theta Omega by 15 April.

Michele Mueller
1219 Valley View Drive
Vermillion, SD

Foundation:

Remember to bring silent auction items for state convention.

Ruth Creasy, Senior Foundation Chair

BETA ALPHA

We had our 1st Annual Paint n Pour for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital on Saturday, March 5th. The success of this event was so great that we may plan to have another later this year. Member, Rachel Furness, was the instructor and other members helped with registration, the penny raffle, door prizes, paint, brushes, water, wine, chocolate, and cheese/meat/crackers. 56 people took part in the Paint n Pour festivities. A local wine shop, This n That, graciously gave us a discount on the wine we bought for the event; and we greatly appreciated the monetary donations received from other chapters as well!

Our chapter is still actively working on a Hope for Heroes project for the upcoming year. Members recently donated items to the Winner Resource Center, as Winner doesn't have a shelter, to support our State Domestic Violence Project. On Saturday, March 19th our chapter will be having a bake sale at a "Ladies Day Out" vendor fair in Colome.

On Thursday, April 7th we will have our annual awards night with Alpha Phi which is always an enjoyable evening to celebrate our chapters' hard work over the last year! Finally, a member of the Patient Satisfaction Team at Winner Regional Healthcare Center contacted Beta Alpha asking us to put together activity packets for kids who are either hospitalized or have family members hospitalized, and this will be our ongoing summer project.

New officers and members for 2016-2017 include: Tia DeSersa and Rachel Furness, Co-Presidents; Ron High Rock, Vice President; Amanda Work, Treasurer; Jamie Messick, Recording/Corresponding Secretary; Rhonda Augspurger, Parliamentarian; and Tammy Frank, Educational Director. Member Ashley Augspurger is excited to start her State Presidency and several other members have decided to run for State office again this year as well. We are extremely happy to have our two new members, Jamie and Ron, join us on our ESA journey!

2015-2016 Theta Omega Chapter Report

We started out the year with the final pinning of Beth Silvano as a new member. We regretted that she moved away from our community later in the year. But we wish her well.

Theta Omega had a "Tour of Tables" event, coordinated by Barb Campbell, on April 18, 2015 to raise money for St. Jude's hospital. We also sold table runners/placemats and painted wine glasses & coffee mugs which our members had made. To top off our day we had a live and a silent auction for additional income for this wonderful cause. Barb also collected aluminum cans during the year for money for St. Jude's.

Many of the membership attended the Convention which was held in Vermillion in May. The Elk Point chapter hosted the convention. Several of our members helped with registration and filling bags with information and gift items. Our chapter received "The Chapter of the Year" reward and the best skit. We were pillow people who danced to music. We had decorated the pillows ourselves with faces and sewed on yarn hair.

The members collect used cartridges and flip cell phones to send off for a refund during the year. The money we make for this project, as well as a raffle for a basket filled with gift items, is used for a donation to Easter Seals to help people with disabilities. The Disaster Fund committee raffled off an ESA picture for a donation to their fund. As our Ways and Means fund raiser, we used to have a rummage sale during the summer, but voted to each donate \$20 instead.

We have a representative, Julie Heine, serve on the Civic Council, a thrift shop, in Vermillion. Members are encouraged to volunteer and this year several made cookies for an holiday open house for them and also baked goodies for the plates they make up for shut-ins before Christmas.

The Social committee organized a monthly luncheon at Mexico Viego. There were also occasions to get together for plays, such Mary Poppins, a Christmas wreath/center piece decorating event which raised money for the local care center's art program, a summer social as several lady's homes (Lois and Michelle), a get-together at someone's new home (Carol). Events to work on some our events were also fun social events, such as making mints for the wedding style show, making packets of numbers for the Tour of Tables, sewing and painting days for the Tour of Tables, making tags for the Giving Tree, and attending the WH Over Museum's Christmas Festival and the Tour of Homes in Vermillion followed by a reception at the Austin Whittemore House.

On Oct 17, 2015, Theta Omega had a wedding style show with wedding dresses from past decades and we had a wonderful turn-out. The committee, under Trudy Zalude's leadership, did an unbelievable amount of work, lining up dresses and young ladies to model them. A story about the original bride and her dress was read during the time the young lady modeling it walked down the aisle. There was a wedding reception afterwards at the Methodist Church where the event took place. This project was our main fund raiser for the Relay for Life. "

On January 13, 2016 our Rush committee hosted a Rush event before our meeting at the Valiant Winery. There was a social with delicious snacks and five guests attended as well as the Theta Omega members. We had a fun evening and hope some of the guests will consider joining ESA.

On February 7, 2016, the USD/Clay County Relay for Life, was held at the Dakota Dome. Theta Omega's team, "CUREsaders", led by Trudy Zalude, was the top fund raiser. We had a campsite with refreshments and chairs for members to rest and visit between laps. Joanne Tieman gave the survivors' speech at the event. She and fellow ESA member, Gayle Bliss, walked in the survivors lap at the beginning of the event. We were honored to have our State ESA President, Amber Heinet, spend the day with us.

The Giving Tree project, under Earleen Varn's leadership, provides gifts for about 100 families or almost 300 Clay County children. Christmas trees in a number of businesses in Vermillion have tags for individual children and the public have the opportunity to pick one or more and buy gifts for them. Gifts are left at this business and our members pick them up and sort and organize them so that each child will have several gifts for Christmas. Parents have times on a couple of days which they can pick up bags with gifts for their family. Donations of money are also given by some people or businesses so some members can do some shopping as needed to complete the task of assuring that each child in the program is provided for. Many hours are spent on this project and the whole chapter is needed to get it done.

"Literacy" was IC President Vicky Jones's campaign and we did our part by donating books for newborn babies at the Sanford Vermillion Medical Center. It's never too early to start reading to your children! JoAnn Stockland, a former teacher, headed this project up and also assisted with recycling at one of the schools in Vermillion.

Hope for Heroes, headed by Patty Rarick, collected items for a young man in Vermillion who is stationed overseas for almost a year. Three different shipments were sent to him to enjoy and share as he wanted. Thanks to the members who brought things for him.

Several members also donated items and took them to the Domestic Violence office here in Vermillion. These things are provided to victims who have had to leave their homes for their safety.

Brenda Chatham, and the Awards committee, developed a service report that could be submitted online or on paper and was better organized than what we had previously used. This new form was shared at the Fall Council in Mitchell. Thanks Brenda and husband, Jeff, who helped with computer skills!

Debbie Colvin, a very artistic Theta Omega member, made a beautiful scrapbook for the year taking pictures and collecting items to add to it all year. She presented it to the outgoing President at the end of the year.

Brenda Chatham and Trudy Zalude were both honored at the end of the year, at the installation of new officers, as "Woman of the Year" as voted on by the membership. They were given woolen mittens to protect their "helping hands" during this cold and snowy winter.

Donations were made at the end of the year to swimming pool for passes, backpack program for school supplies, 4-H program, food pantry and our Domestic Violence program.

The members of Theta Omega ESA are great to work with and I appreciate everyone's contributions this year.

Submitted,

Joanne Tieman,
President of Theta Omega

Hope For Heroes:

Many of the ESA SD State Chapters made significant contributions in recognizing our military personnel throughout this year. Here are some of the highlights;

- * Outfitting a room at the Hot Springs Veteran's Home; donating an American flag in honor of all veterans. This flag currently is flying above the WH Over Museum in Vermillion (Alpha Lambda)
- * Sent baskets of candy for Valentine's Day to Hot Springs for all Veterans (Alpha Phi)
- * Donations given to the Salvation Army and hosting veterans for Thanksgiving Day meal (Alpha Sigma)
- * Supporting care givers of our veterans by creating a mural at an open house with local ESA chapters, the VA Black Hills Health Care System and About This Life. This mural is available for additional events to continue raising awareness and recognition of our veteran population and their caregivers (Chi Omega & Iota Pi)
- * Sending care packages to a serviceman currently serving in Kuwait. His wife and 2 young sons live in Vermillion and we offered any assistance they might need during his absence (Theta Omega)

Alpha Phi:

Alpha Phi has again had a very busy Fall, Christmas & New Year. As I said last time, we have 5 new rushees & us "OLD" gals are excited for their energy & excitement. Welcome-Rique Briggs, Nelle Schlomer, Jill Knight, Sidney Hossle & Megan Halverson (Marsha Risseeuw's granddaughter).

We combined our Christmas party with Beta Alpha for a fun filled night with food, drinks, games, gifts & of course a lot of laughter.



We have donated & helped with a lot of projects, but one we just participated in was to help the local Resource Center for our State Project against Domestic Violence. Everybody brought hygiene products or something to help them in their time of need. We also brought cards, gum, candy, etc. for the veterans & Marsha mailed them to the VA Home.

Our big event was the annual ESA Tour of Tables with our State President, Amber Heinert, as our guest. As usual it turned out great with 15 beautiful tables & EVERYBODY is looking forward to it next year.

Alpha Phi has started our new year with the new officers being:

Co-Presidents-Vicky Foreman & Marsha Risseuw, Secretary-Kate VandenBark, Treasurer-Deb Carrier, & Corresponding Secretary-Bonnie Gardner. We have signed up for new committees & projects & looking forward to our Awards Program on April 7th, joined by Beta Alpha.

See you all at Convention.

Alpha Alpha:

Alpha Alpha has been busy also. We did valentine candy bags for the children at Children's Inn and Children's Home Society. Our April meeting was held at the Children's Inn where we brought items that they use on a daily basis to them. Thank you Amber for helping with our donated items. The end of this month, just before we leave for convention, we will be making May baskets for the children at Children's Inn and Children's Home Society. We are looking forward to seeing you all at Convention. Thank you for inviting us all out to invade your wonderful city of Hot Springs!

Sorry if I missed any articles. Have a wonderful summer! I am done and turning the pen over to the next chapter!

Spring Leadership

Saturday, March 5th, 2016

Hosted by Beta Alpha

Holiday Inn, Winner, SD

9:00 a.m. – Call to Order	Amber Heinert, President (via telephone)
Tribute to the ESA Flag	Ashley Augspurger, Vice-President/President Elect
Opening Ritual	All ESA Members
Opening Prayer	Barb Campbell, Theta Omega

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS

Roll Call/Attendance Sheet Rachel Furness, Recording Secretary

Chapter Name and #	Total Paid Members	Total Present Members
Alpha Alpha #5386	3	0
Alpha Chi #5455	12	2
Alpha Lambda #618	17	0
Apha Phi #1438	29	5
Alpha Sigma #1012	7	0
Beta Alpha #5350	11	8
Chi Omega #5480	6	0 (1 by phone!)
Iota Pi #5537	10	0
Lambda Lambda #5436	5	0
Theta Omega #4699	32	4

Appoint Minute Review Committee for Spring Board

Amber Heinert, President

Amber asked Paula Verzani of Theta Omega and Kim Berven of Alpha Chi to be the minute review committee for today's meeting. They both accepted.

Correspondence

Carrie Hock, Corresponding Secretary

No correspondence.

Treasurers Report

Amanda Work, Treasurer

Alpha Alpha and Alpha Phi are the only two chapters that have not paid dues. Make sure IC dues are paid so that you can vote. Amanda would like to pose the possibility of opening a savings account due to the large account balance, and is looking into what it would take to transfer money from savings to checking. She will bring the subject up again at State Convention to be voted on.

President Elect/Membership

Ashley Augspurger, VP/President Elect

The positions on the executive board are almost filled, but still looking for Vice President/President Elect and Treasurer.

Jr. Past President/ Disaster Fund

Paula Verzani – Theta Omega

As of today, we have \$303.00 raised, which will be deposited to the Treasurer, who will then write a check out to Disaster Fund.

APPOINTED BOARD OFFICER REPORTS**ESA for St. Jude**

Kim Robinson-Chi Omega/Lois Nygaard-Theta Omega

A Radio-a-thon was recently held in the Black hills, with a total of \$70,732.00 raised. Thanks to all the chapters for all they do in support of St. Jude.

ESA Foundation

Ruth Creasy/Emma Neustrom-Alpha Sigma

No report.

Easter Seals

Theta Omega

No report.

Hope for Heroes

Patty Rarick – Theta Omega

Due date to submit what has been done is March 9th, 2016.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**State Project**

Need to turn in what has been done for domestic violence to Thelma Raines from Alpha Lambda.

Youth Award

Due date is March 15th, 2016. Alpha phi is recognizing someone from the Winner area. Beta Alpha will also have a youth award locally, but will not be submitting the nomination any further due to the recipient's limited ability to travel. Sandi Hausmann, of Beta Alpha, suggests changing all the awards nominations to one person. Melanie suggests changing woman of the year to person of the year since we now have male members.

Philanthropic

Reports are due to Tarah Eliason of Alpha Sigma by March 15th, 2016. There is a paper or electronic version of the form available on the website or Facebook page.

Nominating

Ashley Augspurger, Vice President

Treasurer and Vice President/President Elect are both still needed for state board.

Procedural Manual

Paula Verzani – Theta Omega

Chapters need to report any proposed changes to Paula Verzani.

Website

Ashley Augspurger, VP/President Elect

All documentation received by the President or Vice President/President Elect is put on the website and also posted to the Facebook page.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Echoes articles are due March 15, 2016, to Sheri Rozeboom-Kloes of Alpha Alpha.

NEW BUSINESS

- No new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- IC Convention will be coming up July 10-17, 2016, in Loveland, CO. Ashley Augspurger of Beta Alpha has information that will be available on the website.
- 3rd Annual St. Jude Poker Run will be coming up on June 18th, 2016, in the Black Hills. Many bikers are showing interest in helping again. Everyone is invited to come if they are able.
- Alpha Phi – shout out and congratulations for 5 new members pledged. Alpha Chi – 10 new members. Beta Alpha – 2 new members. Theta Omega – 1 new member.

ESA SD STATE CONVENTION

The State Convention planning is coming together. The new Veteran's building is up in a beautiful location and residents are moved in. The tour of the facilities is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, and Amber Heinert, State President, asks everyone to plan on attending. IC and MARC reps are lined up and planning to attend.

Closing prayer

Barb Campbell-Theta Omega

Adjournment

Amber wishes she could be there, but thanks everyone for coming.

Closing Ritual

Leadership presentation by Ashley Augspurger- Vice President/President Elect