

# ECHOES

SOUTH DAKOTA COUNCIL OF EPSILON SIGMA ALPHA

SD State President News-November 2014

## *“Bloom and Grow in ESA”*

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**Dear SD ESA Sisters and Brothers:**

*Job well done - South Dakota! Our SD ESA chapters have taken this year's theme, "Bloom and Grow in ESA" and made it a reality! We currently have 4 chapters who have pending increased memberships. Please continue to share your ESA spirit with others. My daughter, Julee Curry has made the decision to join ESA. We love ESA and what it stands for so why not share with our families? It takes younger individuals to help carry ESA into the next generation! It would be awesome if each of our chapters could share with at least one new member this year! Jamie Atchison, 2009-10 IC President will be our IC Representative at our 2015 Convention. She will be getting out the drum rolls to help us celebrate our 2014-15 accomplishments! Those chapters with new members - give yourselves a huge pat on the back!*

*Thank you to everyone who has invited me to join in your chapter events and meetings. I would still like to schedule visits with each of our chapters - so if I have not already been at your location, please give me a call or e-mail to set those up. Getting to know our sister chapter members is the best part of serving on our state executive board! The year is going entirely too fast!*

***NOW, front page news** ..... WE are so excited about 'Domestic Violence' as our new State Project. This subject shows no favoritism or boundaries, often touching many of our local communities. It is a pattern of behavior which involves physical and emotional abuse of innocent victims. The overwhelming majority of Americans know victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, yet do not talk about the issues. By collecting our coins and bringing them to Convention in May, we are joining forces to generate awareness about Domestic Violence in our state! One coin at a time, we can make a difference. Please encourage your chapter members to drop their extra change into a jar of some sort and bring to convention for this worthy cause.*

***\*\*\*Thanksgiving is a time to reflect and a time to connect with all our family and friends. It is a time to come together and be thankful for our many blessings! Enjoy the season!***

***Take Care, Paula-SD State ESA President***

## State Project

As you all know by now, Domestic Violence received the vote at Fall Council as the new South Dakota State Council project.

Each chapter received a container at Fall Council for each member in each chapter to save their coins, bring to a chapter meeting, and deposit the coins in the container. Let's all see if we can meet a goal of \$800 and have every chapter participate. It will be a "fun and easy" fundraiser for Domestic Violence to overflow those containers with coins. If you fill it, dump the coins in a baggie, and refill a second time, or a third. Convert the coins to currency or checks, and we'll collect the money donations raised at our State Convention in May 2015.

The funds will be sent to the Domestic Violence South Dakota Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault (The Network for short). The Network provides its' member programs with funding opportunities and much needed support through various projects that they take on. The Network has members all over the state of South Dakota.

The following shelters can be contacted directly for "wish lists" needs:

**Vermillion** – Domestic Violence Safe Options Services (DVSOS)

605-624-5311

**Sioux Falls** – The Compass Center: 605-339-0116 or 877-462-7474

Children's Inn: 605-338-4880 or 1-888-378-7398

"Mitka Maske TiKi" (My Sister Friends' House) 605-

731-1950

**Winner** – Resource Center for Families: 605-842-2736 or 1-877-695-

0558

**Mitchell** – Area Safehouse: 605-996-4440 or 1-888-996-8909

**Rapid City** – Working Against Violence (WEAVE): 1-888-716-9284

**Dell Rapids** – Children's Inn in Sioux Falls: 605-338-4880 or Flandreau Wholeness Center: 605-997-3535 or 605-997-5594

Other shelter programs across the state of South Dakota can be found on website <http://dss.sd.gov/victimservices/domesticabuse/shelters.asp>

If you have questions, you may contact Emmy Neustrom, Alpha Sigma, via email [emmyneus@aol.com](mailto:emmyneus@aol.com).

## Living with Domestic Violence Over the Holidays

The holidays are extra difficult for families suffering from interpersonal/domestic abuse. Domestic abuse victims are often isolated from friends and family particularly throughout the holidays. They may feel as though no one knows or understands what they live with or frankly cannot let anyone know for fear of punishment against their family, friends, children, pets or anyone who offers help. Domestic violence most often takes place behind closed doors. Over the holidays that can mean even more stress is placed on suffering families as they are forced to co-cohabit with their abuser in-doors with time off. Please keep them in your thoughts and hearts while you prepare to celebrate time with your families.

### What to Say if You Suspect Someone is Being Abused:

If you suspect a friend or family member is in an abusive relationship, talking with them about it can be hard. The most important thing you can do is to let them know that they have support and options to leave the relationship

It's important to remember that you can't "rescue" your friend from an abusive relationship. Although it is hard to see someone you care about get hurt, ultimately the person being hurt needs to be the one who decides to do something about it. It's important to support and help her find a way to safety.

### Here are some easy ways to help start the conversation: Offer support without judgment or criticism.

There are many reasons why a victim may stay in abusive relationships and, many reasons why she may leave and return to the relationship many times. Let her know it's not her fault and that she's not alone. Respect her decisions, even when you don't agree. Do not criticize or make her feel guilty she needs you to be helpful, not hurtful.

- "It's not your fault he treats you that way."
- "I know this is difficult to discuss, but please know you can talk to me about anything."
- "You are not alone. I care about you and am here for you, no matter what."
- "You are not responsible for his behavior."
- "No matter what you did, you do not deserve this."

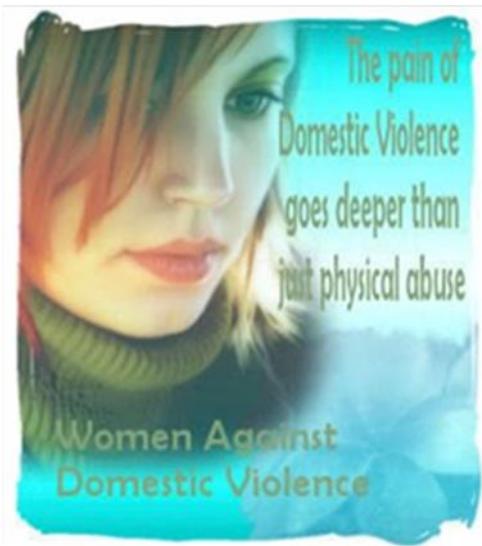
### Don't be afraid to tell her that you're concerned for her safety:

Help your friend or family member recognize the abuse while acknowledging that she is in a very difficult and dangerous situation. Should she choose to leave the relationship it is important to know that it is the most dangerous time in the relationship and support is essential to a successful escape.

- "I see what is going on with you and \_\_\_\_\_, I want to help."

"You don't deserve to be treated that way. Good husbands and partners don't say or do those kinds of things."

- "The way he treats you is wrong. Men should never hit or threaten the women they love."
- "I'm worried about your safety and am afraid he'll really hurt you next time."
- "Promise me that if you need to talk, you'll come to me."



From Your State Chaplain: ~Jan Jones

Is there someone in your chapter, your family, a special relative or friend who may be in need of prayers because of illness or personal loss or who has had a special birthday or other event that is worthy of sharing with ESA members in our state and in the MARC states? I am here to help you do just that!

Each week I share our state's concerns and joys with all of the presidents of the chapters within our State Council. At the beginning of the weekly report you may or may not discover something useful in the unsolicited 'words of wisdom' that I have included. I also share those words plus SD's joys and concerns with our members in the MARC states. BUT--- the only way I can do that is if I'm notified of what's happening in our chapters. SO ---if someone in your chapter has a life event that is of concern to them or to you, please contact me at [bobjon@brookings.net](mailto:bobjon@brookings.net) . You can send an email at any time, no deadlines, just a way to share love and care for each other. ALSO, chapter presidents, when I share statewide or MARC state information with you, would you please make sure that the information gets passed on to your chapter members? I'll be looking forward to finding your messages in my Inbox.

**Merry Christmas!**

### **STATE DUES!!**

I am just sending out a reminder that the state dues are due to me, the state treasurer, on December 1st. Checks can be made out to: **SD Council of ESA**. The dues remain at \$22 per member. Please include a list of your members for whom the dues are being paid along with the check. I have received a few already, but encourage the rest of you to have your chapter treasurer send the dues as soon as possible to:

Brenda O'Hara  
47331 Freedom Street  
Dell Rapids, SD 57022

Thank you!

ESA for St. Jude – ECHOES/winter issue

Earlier this fall, I sent an e-mail message to the presidents of all of our South Dakota ESA Chapters with “We Can Do This!” in the subject line. That message told you about a little girl who lives in Sioux Falls who is being treated at St. Jude Hospital.\* Her name is Reese Whitney and she has an inoperable brain tumor. She and her family will be going to St. Jude very soon for a check-up. If all goes well, they will be returning to Sioux Falls on Thanksgiving night. The next day, November 28th, will be Reese’s third birthday. All that she wants for her birthday is CARDS! I am hoping that, even though this issue of the ECHOES will probably arrive in your inboxes after her birthday, you will be willing to send Reese a card, perhaps a belated birthday card, a thinking of you card, or just a funny greeting card of some sort. (Perhaps many of you have already sent her a card. I hope so.) Yes, WE CAN DO THIS!! Wouldn’t it be fantastic if she received a card from every member of South Dakota ESA? Here is her address. Reese Whitney, 7804 W. Wilson Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57106. Please help Reese celebrate her third birthday. Thank you.

**\*Sioux Falls Argus Leader, Friday, October 24, 2014**

Ladies, I hope you are saving your aluminum tabs and cans for South Dakota ESA for St. Jude. Let me know if there are cans and tabs out there that I need to pick up. On the other hand, if you want to recycle them yourself, just send me a check for the amount of money you get for them along with your chapter name and number and I will forward it to ESA Headquarters. If you wish, you can send the money directly to Headquarters but, if you do so, please send me a note that details your chapter name and number and the amount you forwarded to Headquarters. That way I can keep track of our donations and make sure that they are credited to South Dakota. THANKS!!

**I encourage all of our chapters to have an event for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.  
Danny’s kids are depending on us!**

**Barb Campbell**

**Sr. ESA for St. Jude Chair**

## HOPE 4 HEROES

Dear Sisters of ESA: Please plan a special Hope for Heroes project and forward your project information to Marsha Risseeuw: marrae@gwtc.net I know those who serve us so well are always on our mind and we want to pay special tribute to all.

## PARLIAMENTARIAN UPDATE:

As of this date, I have not received any concerns to be addressed at state convention. ---Marsha Risseeuw

## DISASTER FUND:

Greetings to all our South Dakota ESA sisters and brothers!

As your Junior Past President/Disaster Fund Chair, I want to remind you that the ESA International Council Disaster Fund is here for all of you in the event of a catastrophic event or medical issue. These are “never need to be repaid” funds which have helped some of our South Dakota sisters. The current amount given to recipients is \$5,000.

I encourage each chapter to hold a fundraising event for the Disaster Fund and/or to make Disaster Fund contribution a budgeted item for your chapter.

Please make your chapter and/or individual donation as soon as you can. Checks can be sent directly to me at 983 Crestview Dr., Vermillion, SD 57069, and I will forward them to the IC Disaster Fund Chair.

Disaster Fund is something we do for ourselves so please consider making a contribution a priority. The next person who needs emergency funds might be a member of your chapter. Blessings!

Earleen Varns

The4varns@q.com

## **Board Reports**

### **ESA SOUTH DAKOTA STATE FALL COUNCIL**

**President Elect/Membership:** Amber Heinert, Chi Omega, Black Hills, challenged members to show your ESA passion and share your ESA joys with others. She stated all of our South Dakota chapters have ~~(Cedar Shore Resort at Onamia, SD-Hosted by the SD Pheasant State Quills)~~ differently. Amber encouraged us to “think outside of the box” as we look to bring new members to our groups. She concluded with a final thought which was to “consider becoming an officer”.

#### **8:30 AM – Informal Executive Board Meeting**

**Treasurer’s Report:** Brenda O Hara, Alpha Chi, Dell Rapids, reported a balance of \$3,504.54 as of October 1, 2014.

#### **9:00 AM – Light Breakfast**

**Parliamentarian/By-Laws Proposals:** Marsha Risseuw, Alpha Phi, Winner, no items to present at this time.

**The annual Fall Council meeting of the South Dakota State Council of ESA was called to order by Jr. Past President/Disaster Fund:** Earleen Varns, Theta Omega, Vermillion, reminded members that anyone can apply for disaster funds. The goal for our state is that the state’s donations to the Disaster **Words of Inspiration** were offered by **Chaplain Jan Jones** a tribute to the ESA flag was presented by **Amber Hatcher**, the Opening Ritual was recited by the members focus.

**Fall Council Chair:** Shelley Huber welcomed members and guests to the fall meeting hosted by the SD Pheasant State Quills. She reported a total of 28 members present; the members representing 10 ESA chapters. The following were recognized for being first time Council attendees: Shelly Naze (Alpha Phi), Lori Vosika (Iota Pi), Hot Springs, informed members that currently the Easter Seal focus is on caregivers. Caregivers are actively supported by Easter Seals. All ESA chapters should look for ways to support Easter Seals.

**ESA for St. Jude:** Barb Campbell, Theta Omega, Vermillion, proposed to the members to keep collecting pop cans and tabs. As a reminder, she distributed new collection jars to each chapter. As stated in the last edition of the ECHOES, the goal is to raise \$10,000 from our state. Barb issued a personal challenge

**Corresponding Secretary:** Patty Rarick, Theta Omega, Vermillion announced the following items: found on-line. We can get credit for participating in the Partners in Hope program by sending checks to **1. An Easter Seals Certificate of Appreciation went to Alpha Lambda, Vermillion. The document was accepted by Kay Rasmussen, Alpha Lambda, Vermillion.**

**2. MARC Quilt Raffle tickets are available for purchase from Patty Rarick. \$1 per ticket or 6 for \$5. The drawing will be held at the MARC Conference.**

**3. The Distinguished Achievement report for the Secretary’s file box was passed on to Kay Rasmussen** set at \$75,000. Donations of \$35 will receive a t-shirt.

**4. The 2015 Leadership Conference Information Packet, Denver, CO was passed on to Amber Heinert, Chi Omega, Hot Springs.** chapter is Beta Eta. The convention site is Howler’s in Vermillion, SD. A block of rooms has been reserved. More information is expected to be released by mid-December. **Approval of minutes from State Convention 2012 as emailed and published in ECHOES: motion was made by Jan Jones, Theta Omega, Vermillion to accept the minutes as distributed. Emmy Neustrom, Alpha Sigma, Sioux Falls, second. Motion passes.**

**Appointed Minute Review Committee: Barb Campbell, Theta Omega, Vermillion and Sandie Sullivan, Lambda Lambda, Vermillion.**



-Educational Director: Melanie Niehus, Lambda Lambda, Sioux Falls, asked for members from each chapter to share what they are doing for educational programs this year:

Chi Omega (Amber Heinert): No formal program

Alpha Phi (Shelly Naze): "Why you live in Winner and where would you live if you didn't?"

Theta Omega (Earleen Varns): "What other organizations are you a part of and what are you acts of kindness?"

Alpha Sigma (Tarah Eliason): Reading the book Happier at Home

Alpha Chi (Brenda O'Hara): Pinterest project

Beta Eta (Donna Breed): "What is your favorite national park?"

Lambda Lambda (Luann Ouellette): Book reading

Alpha Lambda (Luann Ouellette): "Take 5" – five things that tell about yourself

Beta Alpha (Sandi Hausmann): "Everything you should know about ESA"

-ESA Foundation: Jan Jones for Kay Nordlie, Alpha Alpha. Jan reminds us that the ESA Foundation is the charitable aspect of ESA. The major focus is education. A new brochure has been created. It includes the mission statement as well as scholarship and grant information. Patty Rarick was recognized as being the newest life active member. Part of the \$500 membership goes towards special grants. One example of a special grant was the donation made to the Children's Book Bank at IC Convention in Portland, Oregon this summer. Scholarship applications can be found on-line. Kathy Loyd (attending today) is a current member of the Foundation's Board of Directors.

The list of fully endowed scholarships includes:

1. Barb & Clayton Campbell Breast Cancer Endowment
2. Bob & Jan Jones Endowment
3. Cora and Royal Scott Memorial Endowment
4. Dr. Sydney & Corrine Millburn Memorial Endowment
5. Kenneth L. Varns and Harold R. Varns Memorial Endowment
6. The MARC Scholarship

The SD State Council Scholarship is not yet fully endowed. Donations may be made on-line.

A few other Foundation announcements: the Foundation also offers graduate scholarships; federal employees, wishing to donate money to ESA, can take advantage of the "Combined Federal Campaign" program by using the code "10031"; planned giving information options are explained on the Foundation website. To join the Foundation, Jan has application forms or you can find them on-line. Currently, it cost \$25 to become a member with an annual fee of \$15 to stay active. Membership fees need to be to Headquarters by the last day of February.

-Hope for Heroes: Marsha Risseeuw, Alpha Phi, Winner. Last year's project of furnishing a room at the VA in Hot Springs went very, very well. Thank you to all. For this current year, there will be no official state project; each chapter will be allowed to select their own project. Each chapter will be expected to forward a year-end report to Marsha prior to the state convention. Marsha provided a suggestion sheet for each chapter that listed several possible projects for consideration:

Care packages to military members overseas, Wounded Warrior project, Help the VA facilities in Sioux Falls or Hot Springs, host a special event to recognize local veterans, recognize local color guards for their willingness to provide their services, look for ways to support military families living in your community.

Last, but not least, Marsha reminded all of us to fly our American flag and to thank those who have given so much so that all of us can live in the land of the free.

-Philanthropic: Margie Parks, Alpha Sigma, Sioux Falls. Not present

-Quills President, Shelley Huber, Beta Eta, Elk Point, announced Melanie Niehus of Lambda Lambda is the 2014-2015 Quills' President.

-State Project, Emmy Neustrom, Alpha Sigma, Dell Rapids, asked to move this discussion to the unfinished business portion of the meeting.

-Website, Tarah Eliason, spoke on behalf of the webmasters which include:

Ashley Augspurger – ashely.augsperger@gmail.com

Tarah Eliason – tarah.eliason@gmail.com

Sheba Schlaikjer – sschlaikjer@gmail.com

The group asks each chapter to provide pictures for the South Dakota website. Those can be sent to the new email address of sodakesa@gmail.com. Thank you!

### Unfinished Business

-Budget: Brenda O'Hara, Alpha Chi, Dell Rapids, presented the 2014-2015 state budget. The budget is also available for viewing in the ECHOES. The South Dakota State Board recommends not increasing members' dues. The budget was calculated from a membership of 131 members (total based upon 2014 May Convention report). Executive Board recommended the following:

1. State Project \$1/member be reduced to \$0

2. Items to be cut in half:

President/MARC Conference room \$100 → \$50

President/MARC travel \$250 → \$125

President/MARC registration \$125 → \$62.50

3. IC & MARC Reps/Gifts will be removed

4. Gifts for IC/MARC Reps at State Convention will be removed.

It was brought to the members' attention, the registration fee for IC will be increasing to \$625. Time was allowed for discussion. Members were reminded that we need to recruit more members into our organization. All members present did agree that it was understood the ESA State president would be expected to go to MARC. President Verzani asked for a motion to approve the budget as presented, with the amendment of line 17 (President-elect/IC Leadership Registration). Motion from Marsha Risseuw, Alpha Phi, Winner to approve; second from Sally Schmitz, Theta Omega, Vermillion. Motion carried. Treasurer, Brenda O'Hara, will update the budget document to reflect decisions made today.

After motion approved, Shelley Huber, Beta Eta, Elk Point, inquired as to what our income needs to be. She requested that possibly a study could be done as to how each chapter could increase their income. Last year, President Varns challenged all chapters to add 5 new members. President Verzani challenged each chapter to add two new members by next May's convention.

-Proposed Standing Rule Change from 2013 Convention: President Verzani stated a change had been brought up last year, but somehow it inadvertently was not discussed at Convention. A proposal was made that some of the monies from the ESA Foundation auction at state convention be set aside as funding for those members seeking MARC and/or IC elected offices. Emmy Neustrom, Alpha Sigma, Sioux Falls, made the motion to approve the proposal. Seconded by Sally Schmitz, Theta Omega, Vermillion. Exact wording read "setting aside funding for members seeking MARC or IC elective office."

Original wording of the Standing Rule:

"Only ESA Foundation fund raising will be allowed at State Convention. Funds raised will be used to support SD-related Foundation issues and South Dakota members seeking MARC or IC elected office.

Discussion included questioning the word "seeking". The suggestion was made to change the wording to "being a candidate" for MARC or IC elected office. Motion to approve with amended wording was made by Emmy Neustrom, seconded by Sally Schmitz. Motion carries.

-State Project: Emmy Neustrom, Alpha Sigma, Sioux Falls, provided members with State Project ballots in order that they could vote. Earleen Varns, Theta Omega, Vermillion, proposed the idea of not having a state project with the idea that each chapter could select their own project. President Verzani stated that in order for the group to not have a state project, the by-laws would have to be changed. That type of proposal would have to be submitted to the state parliamentarian or president at least 30 days prior to the state convention. The members that were present did submit their votes. The winning project was Domestic Violence. Sandie Sullivan, representing Domestic Violence Safe Options Services and on behalf of all battered women, thanked all for their continued support. Fund collection containers were distributed to all chapters.

-IC Foundation Auction Item purchased for Portland meeting: The \$50 reimbursement owed to Barb Campbell will be sent by Kay Nordlie.

### **New Business**

-Request from MARC Vice-President/President Elect, Pat Ludwig seeking MARC officers presented by President Verzani. All positions have been filled for the 2014-2015 MARC year. From South Dakota, Jan

Jones will serve as Chaplain and Luann Ouellette, who is currently serving as chairman of the audit committee, will be serving on the budget committee.

-Proposed Standing Rule change: On behalf of the Executive Board, President Verzani proposes a motion that the position of Vice President and Vice President Elect be combined into one office. Brief discussion followed. All members present voted in favor of the proposed change. Motion carries. The issue will be voted on at State Convention.

-IC Officer Nomination: Ruth Creasy, Alpha Sigma, Sioux Falls, nominates Emmy Neustrom, Alpha Sigma, for IC Parliamentarian. Second by Barb Campbell, Theta Omega, Vermillion. Vote taken. Approved by members. Emmy then thanked membership for their support.

-President Verzani asked for any other new business items. Luann Ouellette, Lambda Lambda, Vermillion, brought up the point that the South Dakota membership had previously voted to allow the past state president to also serve as parliamentarian. This law can be found in the by-laws. It was suggested the language may need to be reviewed or "cleaned-up" for state convention.

#### Announcements:

1. Luann Ouellette announced that Corrine Milburn's family had donated several pieces of her jewelry and other tidbits to SD ESA. Members could purchase a memento with the intent of the proceeds going to St. Jude or the ESA Foundation.
2. A variety of dates to remember accompanied the agenda.
3. A no-hostess lunch was held at Al's Oasis.

#### Closing

Chaplain Jan Jones provided final thoughts and blessing of the meal. Jan asked us to think about our own personal experiences and how they impacted the people around us.

Meeting concluded with members stating the Closing Ritual.

Meeting completed at 12:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Rasmussen

ESA Recording Secretary

**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE COUNCIL OF EPSILON SIGMA ALPHA**

65th State Convention – “Bloom and Grow in ESA”  
Friday, May 1st & Saturday, May 2nd, 2015  
Prairie Inn – Vermillion Events Center – Howler’s Grill  
912 North Dakota Street  
Vermillion, SD 57069

**REGISTRATION FORM** (please print and mail to address listed below)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

List current offices held on the following boards:

State Board \_\_\_\_\_ Intl. Council \_\_\_\_\_

MARC Board \_\_\_\_\_ ESA FDN \_\_\_\_\_

Are you attending your 1st SD State Convention yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_

Please indicate # you’re paying for    Early Registration    #    After 4-1-2015 #    If guest, please  
print name below

Entire Convention    \$70    \$75

Partial or Guest Registrations:

Friday evening/Meal & Mixer    \$22    \$23

Saturday Awards Luncheon    \$20    \$22

Saturday Banquet    \$28    \$30

TOTAL ENCLOSED    \$

**SPECIAL NEEDS**

Dietary\Allergy\Other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Donna Breed  
SD ESA State Council Convention Chair  
30820 472nd Ave  
Beresford, SD 57004

Questions?: email Donna Breed at dsbreed@gmail.com or dbreed@premeirbankcard.com or call her at 605-351-7874

**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE COUNCIL OF EPSILON SIGMA ALPHA**

65th State Convention – “Bloom and Grow in ESA”

Friday, May 1st & Saturday, May 2nd, 2015

Prairie Inn – Vermillion Events Center – Howler’s Grill

912 North Dakota Street

Vermillion, SD 57069

If you need to cancel your convention registration, the full amount, less a \$5.00 processing fee will be refunded. Cancellations must be requested in writing (or e-mail) & post marked no later than April 23rd. Returned checks will be assessed the fee charged by the bank.

**Rooms are blocked until April 1, 2015**

**Block Name: ESA State Convention**

**To reserve a room, you must call the Prairie Inn at (605) 624-2824 and mention the block name, ESA State Convention, for the rates listed below.**

**Rates: 2 Queen beds: \$69.99 + tax    1 King bed: \$79.99**

**2 room Suite: \$99.99 + tax    3 Queen beds suite: \$99.99**

Tentative Schedule Of Events & Times

All meetings held at the Vermillion Event Center meeting rooms except the board meeting

Friday – May 1st

Registration: 3:00-6:00 PM

General Board Meeting: 4:00 PM – Prairie Inn Breakfast Room

Mixer/Meal/Skits/Fun: 5:30 PM

Followed by: Flag Ceremony Practice & Quills (Past President’s) Meeting

Saturday – May 2nd

Registration: 7:00 AM-8:00 AM

Continental Breakfast: 7:00 AM

Opening Ceremonies: 8:00 AM

1st General Assembly

Awards Luncheon: 12:30 PM

Followed by the 2nd General Assembly

Time for shopping in Vermillion

Social Hour: 5:30 pm

Installation: 6:30 pm

Banquet

Acceptance Speech

Recognitions

Mail registrations to: Donna Breed  
SD ESA State Council Convention Chair  
30820 472nd Ave  
Beresford, SD 57004

**Questions?:** email Donna Breed at dsbreed@gmail.com or dbreed@premeirbankcard.com or call her at 605-351-7874

**Other hotels in Vermillion:**

Holiday Inn Express: (605) 624-7600      Super 8: (605) 624-8005      Best Western Inn: (605) 624-8333

## CHAPTER HAPPENINGS!!!

### News from Alpha Chi

This fall we had a fun few evenings completing twenty-four Santa Hugs and sending them off to Santa America for distribution. We have many talented seamstresses in our midst, so it went pretty smoothly. We are now busy with our "Christmas for Our Kids" project - so far we are helping 17 families with Christmas gifts for the kiddos. We also just decorated two trees at the Dell Rapids Museum to help spread the holiday cheer and get ready for the Festival of Trees weekend here in Dell Rapids. Later this week we will be gathering for our annual Alpha Chi Christmas Party and ornament exchange - lots of good food and friendship! Mark your calendars for our annual Tour of Tables event which is going to be held on Saturday, March 7th. Hope to see many of you there. Finally, we are happy to report that we are working on getting a second ESA chapter started in Dell Rapids. There are many young women in Dells that are making a difference in our community already and we hope to have them charter a new ESA chapter this coming year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Alpha Chi!

### Alpha Phi

Our November meeting was held at the Holiday Inn at Winner. Our chapter members brought socks and underwear for Hats for Hope to distribute to the Elementary school.

We are planning on making winter emergency kits and distribute them to students that travel from home to college or anyone in the community that travels out of town for work. We will be working on them for the next 2 months.

For our Educational we had an informative talk from Kate Vandebark. She told us her family moved to Winner to run a bee business. It was very interesting listening how the honey is made. We hope to take a tour of their operation in the spring.

## **BETA ALPHA-Fall Happenings!**

Beta Alpha sisters have enjoyed a beautiful fall, but a touch of winter has harassed us this week. It has left us cold, but our hearts are warmed with the friendships we share with our ESA sisters. It is the middle of November and we are gearing up for the Show and Sell on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. We have about 35 vendors that will be showing a variety of items at the Winner Armory from 9 am to 3 pm. State President, Paula Verzani plans to make her chapter visit that day and help out wherever she is needed. Included in this event is a silent auction for St. Jude and our ever famous concession stand serving breakfast and lunch with many homemade items. We have committed the door admission and concession stand sales for two local projects – Winner Transit and Dakota Senior Meals. We invite all sisters to attend this great event.

Beth Hamiel and Sandi Hausmann attended Fall Council in Chamberlain on October 4<sup>th</sup>. They brought back much information to the chapter. Our “Big Mouth Beta” money will go towards the new state project of domestic violence. We have the creamer bottle about full and may have to start a new one or get one that is a bigger size. We continue to save pop tabs for St. Jude.

On October 16<sup>th</sup>, we teamed up with a local retailer “This-N-That Salon and Wine Shop” and had our rush. “This-N-That Salon and Wine Shop” is just what its name says - a little of this and that. You can get your hair done, a pedicure, manicure, buy wine, coffee and many other small items. We had wine tasting and lots of socializing. From our rush we have had one new member join and two others who are considering joining. We welcome Amanda Work to our chapter.

The holidays will soon be on us and it is a very busy time for all of us. We asked our members to have their state dues paid to the chapter by November 1<sup>st</sup> so that our secretary had plenty of time to get them sent on to the state level. Alpha Phi and Beta Alpha will join together for a Christmas social on December 10. Be sure to watch for pictures on the website or facebook of this event.

Happy Thanksgiving to all of our sisters and their families!

## **Hello From Iota Pi-Hot Springs**

Iota Pi continues to be very active seeking new opportunities to connect and serve others as well as grow in knowledge of ESA at a broader level. Lori Vosika attended her first Fall Council and the chapter welcomes 3 new members!! Iota Pi embraced supporting survivors of domestic violence and donated a wide assortment of items to a local shelter supporting the southern hills. We also partnered with the High School Key Club and Modern Woodmen of America youth service club to raise funds and provide support for on-going medical expenses for two local infants in the community. We have a date planned to work with the local Boys and Girls Club kids to make 50 Santa Hugs-what a great opportunity to involve local kids!! A holiday social is planned for some fun and friendship.

## **Chi Omega report-**

CHI OMEGA continues to work on rebuilding the chapter and getting to know one another and ESA. A fun social is planned for January along with the Hot Springs chapter. Plans are in the works to return the Simulated Horse Race event next year so be on the look-out! Members will also be looking to support the St. Jude Country Cares for Kids radio-a-thon planned for March.

## **ALPHA ALPHA-**

We are going to be doing a fundraiser at the Brandon Pizza Ranch on Monday September 29. Proceeds go to Children's Inn. We would like to see you there to help support them. We are also doing our annual Fall Bazaar to benefit St. Jude on Saturday November 1st. This will be held at the Sioux Falls VFW on south Minnesota just north of I-229. We would love to see you there also. Thank you!

## **Alpha Lambda-**

Alpha Lambda continues to work in the Vermillion community volunteering work with the Vermillion Food Pantry and The Civic Council. Alpha Lambda also collected hats, gloves, and scarves along with monetary donations for the Hats for Hope initiative.

Alpha Lambda has had several social outings recently including a wine tasting trip to the Birdsong Vineyards and meeting for coffee monthly in the afternoons.

At the meeting in November the Alpha Lambda nominations were announced and offices were elected for 2015/2016. We look forward to installation of the new offices after the new year.

## **ESA Beta Eta Echoes November 2014 Article**

We hope that everyone had a fun filled summer and enjoyed the beautiful fall. Since I was too late in submitting my August article, I will recap what we have been doing since spring.

Our members that attended State Convention in Winner had a very enjoyable time. I want to thank Shelley Huber for presenting the state awards for me. Donna Breed and Shelley Huber, co convention chairs, are now in the process of working out the details for the 2015 State Convention which we will be held on May 1-2, 2015 at the Prairie Inn in Vermillion.

In May, we presented four Youth Awards to junior high students and a \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior.

Our greatest loss on July 18 was the passing of Dr. Corinne Milburn. She left a huge void in local and state chapters and international affairs after being involved in ESA for 45 years.

Beta Eta is in the process of planning our Christmas caroling at Welcov Assisted Living and Christmas party at Prairie Estates Care Center.

We are all looking forward to spending memorable and quality time with our families and friends at Thanksgiving. We have so much to be thankful for!

Wishing everyone happy times at the upcoming holidays and many joys in 2015!-Pat Schurdevin/Secretary