

ECHOES

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By Alpha Alpha

Welcome To SDESA Echoes. I am hoping that you all have a wonderful year. I know I am looking forward to this year and all the wonderful things to come.

This first article comes to us from our IC president.

Hello my ESA Family. Hope this finds you all well.

An IC convention can be a powerful thing. SERC deserves a thousand and one kudos for a job well done. Of course the 2015 convention will always hold a special place in my heart. If you would like to see all of the fun times you can go to hymerphotography.com and scan the pictures. As usual Jerry (our official photographer) did a super job covering all the fun.

Can you believe that ESA has raised over \$208 million dollars for St. Jude. My main reason for joining ESA in 1992 was so that I could help raise money for "The Kids". We all have our own reasons for joining and for continuing our relationship with ESA. We each have shared the ESA experience differently. ESA has a spirit that is in all of us. It is not easily defined but it is a spirit of affirmation and community. A spirit of passion and compassion. It is a spirit of awareness and goodness.

This spirit guides us to be leaders, it empowers us to volunteer, it inspires us to reach past what we know and to seek that which we do not know through education. It moves us to see past ourselves and to appreciate the struggles and the beauty of those around us.

Only we can make our world of ESA. Survival of our organization is due to outstanding leadership, which has characterized ESA through its dynamic history. As we look to our future, our goals, hopes, ideals and purpose will remain the same, but we are met with the challenges of

this modern world we live in. The opportunities to thrive are endless and can only be identified by the members of ESA today.

Technology can help us better communicate our Membership message, “Service is in Style”, but it takes one person asking another to create a new member. It takes one person giving their time and effort to raise dollars for our many causes. It takes one person planning a special program to make our Educational meetings a time that stirs the imagination. There is still a great future for our Organization. Our challenge is to continue to share ESA, reach out to our neighbors and educate our communities to the purpose and ideals of ESA.

We are the past, present and future of ESA. Set your sights high. Remember to share your reasons for joining ESA, share what you have achieved and what your visions are for ESA.

Take care and ESA hugs to you all.....*rickie*

Amber asked each of the board members to write a short article introducing themselves. The following are the ones that were received.

I am so excited to be writing my first article for the Echoes as your new state president. ESA has been such an instrumental part of my life from a very young age and continues to be a cornerstone in the work I do each and every day. I am blessed in the line of work I am in that I become aware of situations where individuals and/or families are in need of support from an organization such as ESA. I have seen ESA members provide phenomenal support all across our state. In return, I have seen many families who have personally benefitted from ESA's

support, stabilize and ultimately reach out and pay it forward to others in need. I have no doubt you all have seen the same. This makes my eyes and my heart sparkle with joy and fulfillment and consistently renews my faith and commitment to this great organization.

I want to say a very special “Thank You” to Barb Campbell, Emmy Neustrom, and Tarah Eliason for your support and coverage at IC convention. For those of you who may not be aware, I was ultimately unable to attend IC Convention due to a variety of reasons, mainly my son broke his arm pretty good requiring surgery, placement of rods etc. He is doing well and now we are awaiting follow up surgery to remove the rods and hopeful full recovery! I look forward to hearing from all of you at Fall Council.

Fall Council is quickly approaching. I am looking forward to a trip to Mitchell and seeing everyone. I believe you will enjoy what is being planned for Fall Council!!

I look forward to visiting all chapters this year. I have received two invites so far and had the opportunity to visit Beta Alpha in Winner during their summer social. They had several guests and I am confident a few will be signing on as new members to ESA! Please let me know when you have events/meetings scheduled and I will make every effort to attend. Please use facebook and our website calendar to post your events. Great way for us ALL to keep in touch and aware of all the great things our chapters are doing across the state.

Friends in ESA,

Amber Heinert

Vice President



Hello everyone! For those who were unable to attend State Convention in May, I am Ashley Augspuriger, your new State Council Vice President. Although I still feel very new to ESA, I’m extremely excited and

honored to serve on our Board. Beta Alpha (Winner) is my chapter and I have been extremely blessed to be part of such a wonderful, hardworking group!

I joined Beta Alpha in Fall 2013 after my friend (Tammy Frank), who is also my supervisor at work, invited me to a wine social that July. I LOVE me some wine!! 😊 However...the overall collectiveness and service to our community and surrounding communities is what ultimately drove my desire to join ESA. I have never been a member of any organization like ESA, and I am so thankful I can give back to others in need. In June 2012, I lost my would've-been (little did I know) fiancé to suicide. Ever since that tragedy I have made it my mission in life to positively enrich my efforts to help others in any way possible.

Winner is my hometown! I currently live within city limits but will soon be moving as my boyfriend, Marc, is building a house on his family farm. Marc and I have an energetic, loving yellow lab named Jase who can brighten anyone's day! I'm employed at the Department of Social Services in Mission as an Employment Specialist. In May 2010 I graduated from the University of South Dakota, after majoring in Business, and obtained a Bachelor's in Business Administration with an Emphasis in Human Resources. My hobbies include bowling, archery, scrapbooking, photography, web design, event planning, boating, and fishing. I also enjoy going to concerts, Minnesota Vikings and Nebraska Huskers football games, Minnesota Twins baseball games, and NASCAR races.

In addition to the duties I've recently acquired, I am also the current Webmaster for our State ESA website, Co-President of Beta Alpha, will be assisting with the management of the State ESA Facebook page, and am on several committees both on the State Council and within my chapter.

I look forward to meeting even more ESA members this year and in the years to come! Feel free to contact me anytime. My email address is Ashley.Augspurgen@gmail.com and my phone number can be found on our website, www.sodakesa.org.

Hi, my name is Rachel Furness. I'm pretty new to ESA and will be coming up on my 1 year mark in a couple months! I have the honor to be serving as recording secretary this year with so many other amazing people on the board! Even with my short time as an ESA sister, I have grown to love ESA and all that it stands for. I look forward to learning more and more about it as the time goes on, and I'm so excited to meet and get to know all of you who help make it the wonderful organization that it is today. I live in Winner with my husband, Dan, and our two Italian Greyhounds (our fur babies), Bandit and Smokey.

Hello my fellow ESA sisters! My name is Melanie Niehus; and I have been a member of ESA for 15 years. Yes, it has been 15 great years with all my South Dakota and International ESA sisters that are wonderful. I remember being invited to a Beta Alpha ESA meeting where the new recruit were in for a lot of fun - a scavenger hunt around Winner. Do that pregnant the very first time! It made an impression that never left me.

As an ESA member I have had many roles that have made me a stronger person. These include Recording Secretary, Chapter President, State Vice President, State President (where I got to go to Chattanooga, TN, for the IC conference. I am a member of the Quills and just finished this year as President of the Quills. This year I am your state Parliamentarian.

As of this email, my family is in the process of moving back to Winner, South Dakota, after leaving for about 4 years. To put it more precise, we are moving things into our first owned home and trying to get items

set up so we can finally be living in the home. I am so happy for this new adventure of being a home owner.

If you need anything - I am the ESA member that is more than welcome to assist you with anything you need. Just email me at mpilarsk@gwtc.net.

**Your State Parliamentarian,
Melanie Niehus**

Hey everyone and welcome to another year with ESA! For those of you I haven't met yet I am your new State Treasurer for the 2015-2016 year Amanda Work. I am a member of the Beta Alpha Chapter in Winner, South Dakota. I am originally from West Virginia and moved to South Dakota approximately four years ago to attend law school. After completing law school I moved to Winner where I've lived for about a year. I initially joined ESA to meet people in the community and love the service driven purpose of the organization. For me it is special to see the impact ESA has within our local community as well as nationwide in helping with various projects including St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. This impact is embodied in this year's theme of "Service is Always in Style." My goal as Treasurer is to not only fulfill the role as outlined in our duties but to be an accessible Board member who will listen to any and all input. My goal as a member of ESA is to support all the service projects of our organization including the State project of Domestic Violence.

Also as a reminder all state dues this year (2015-2016) are \$30 per member. All chapters please remember to submit your state dues for your members no later than December 1, 2015. Please also include a list of members for whom dues are paid when you submit your state dues. Please submit all dues and lists to me, the current State Treasurer, Amanda Work P.O. Box 729 Winner, SD 57580.

From New SD ESA Chaplain:

My name is DJ Smith. I have been appointed as your SD ESA State Chaplain. Chi Omega is my home chapter in Rapid City. The shoes that I am trying to fill are well worn and very difficult to live up to. SD has had several GREAT ladies in this position.

Please feel free to e-mail me at tomanddj@hotmail.com or drop me a line at 8272 Kitt Peak Rd Rapid City, SD 57702 with any prayer requests, thoughts, good news, ideas and/or concerns that need to be brought to the attention of the SD ESA Chapters. I will forward them as needed to whomever will help.

Thank you for your patience with me while I learn something new that God has led me to do.

**Love and Prayers,
DJ Smith**

A Note from the Awards Chairpersons

As summer winds down and we begin to think of gearing up for ESA this fall here is a friendly reminder about awards.

***The Awards Chair is responsible for coordinating the Service awards for all ESA members; but your chapter must submit any members to be recognized to us.**

***These are the awards recognized – First Pearl, Pallas Athene (Degrees 1-4) and Service Awards (5, 10, 15 & 20 years). This is typically done during the Saturday Awards Luncheon.**

***These awards are also recognized – Fifth and Sixth Degree Pallas Athene Awards and Service Awards (25 years and more, in five-year increments). This is typically done during the Saturday evening banquet. Please include your chapter write up when recognizing people for 5th and 6th Degree and Service Awards for 25 or more years.**

***Service Awards must be postmarked by March 15, 2016.**

Send to:

**Sandi and Kristen Hausmann
ESA-Beta Alpha
600 E. Tripp Ave.
Winner, SD 57580**

Please consider having your chapter participate in the Distinguished Achievement Award. We all have many community members who are deserving of this award as they contribute much to our communities.

***Distinguished Achievement Award information must be postmarked by March 1, 2016.**

Send to:

**Sandi and Kristen Hausmann
ESA-Beta Alpha
600 E. Tripp Ave.
Winner, SD 57580**

Here is a link from ESA international for information on the Distinguished Service Award.

<http://www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/member-center/chapter-management/forms/international-council-forms> You will need to use your member number and password to view the documents.

If you would like for us to email you the pdf., version of this, contact us: shausman@tcsdk12.org

Sandi & Kristen Hausmann

Hope for Heroes---End of year report-----Best wishes to Patty Rarick, who now serves as the chair person for this project. Since this did not make the final convention report, I send it to be included to give recognition to those who did so much during the past year.

Update from Randall Meyers dated March of 2015. As of this week the exterior of the building has been completed and they have begun putting the topsoil around the building. Most of the interior painting is completed and they have started putting in the cabinets. The work is about one week ahead of schedule. Move- in time is projected to be sometime in early 2017.

Thanks again for your thoughtfulness! Randy

On a chapter level, I received several reports that shared the wonderful attention that was paid to our local veterans. I will just highlight a few of the comments:

-hosted a full Thanksgiving dinner for a live alone veteran. Time was spent serving, visiting and enjoying the opportunity.

-participated in “Quilts of Valor” and presented 16 quilts to the veterans at the ROTC Military Ball

_Collected and mailed over 16 pounds of beef jerky to veterans serving outside the United States

_wrote letters to local veterans that were serving overseas

-attended ceremonies that recognized our veterans

-A ”Quilt of Valor” comforted a veteran who died under that quilt which was regifted to a child in that family whose husband was in the navy in the 80’s

_donated a flag to a silent auction for a policeman hero

-maintained membership in Wounded Warrior Program

-keeping Veterans and others who serve in such capacities in our prayers

A special thank you for all that you have done, ESA members and may we always remember that we live in the land of the free because of those who served to protect our freedoms.

Project Chair Marsha Risseeuw----report from Convention of 2015

Dearest South Dakota ESA Sisters:

I just want to THANK YOU for a fabulous ESA for St. Jude year. Last August I told you I wanted us to raise at least \$10,000 for the kids of St. Jude and I set a personal “stretch goal” of \$15,000. We did all of that and much more!

We had reached my “stretch goal” of a bit more than \$15,000 by the middle of May. I was so excited!! I did know, however, that Amber

Heinert and Kim Robinson had worked at a St. Jude radio-a-thon in Rapid City earlier in the year, but had not seen any amount posted to our totals. Cathy Lyons at ESA Headquarters told me that she was watching the reports from ALSAC carefully to make sure that South Dakota got credit for the hours that Amber and Kim worked. I was in the lingerie department of Younkers in Sioux City when my cell phone rang. It was Cathy who immediately asked me if I was sitting down. She then informed me that between the more than \$15,000 already credited to South Dakota and the amount credited to Amber and Kim's hours, we would be presenting \$43,253 at the banquet at IC Convention in Orlando!!! No, that figure is not a typo. I was absolutely floored and so excited. That is the largest total ever credited to South Dakota, EVER! Thanks to all of you, we had a spectacular year for Danny's kids.

Here are the year's totals.....The push to \$200,000,000 – 64 chapters raised \$32,264.

The year's grand total.....\$16,727,662 and the overall total raised to date by ESA for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.....\$208,481,968. Last year's Give Thanks, Walk.....Team ESA raised \$80,000. So, this year ESA has committed to raise \$100,000. A Lofty Goal, for sure.

The Give Thanks, Walk is now called The St. Jude Walk/Run to End Childhood Cancer and has been moved to September 26th. There is a South Dakota Virtual Team. See Kim Robinson's post on the South Dakota ESA page on Facebook. Sign up, everyone. Make Kim's year at least as great as this past year.

Thanks for a wonderful year!

Barb Campbell, 2014-2015 SD ESA for St. Jude Chair

The following are articles from the chapters. Some of them have goings on coming up and would love to see you there to help support them.

BETA ALPHA We teamed up with Alpha Phi to hold our annual awards banquet on April 16th. Our theme was “Nautical” and Kristen did a great job with the decorations while Alpha Phi provided the dessert, a delicious cheesecake! Service awards presented were: Karla Brozik (10 years), Sandi Hausmann (15 years), and Tammy Frank (20 years). Ashley Augspurger was named Woman of the Year. At State Convention, we had three current members volunteer for the State Council Board – Ashley Augspurger, Vice President; Rachel Furness, Recording Secretary; and Amanda Work, Treasurer. In addition, Melanie Niehus (Lambda Lambda) has moved back to the Winner area and will be joining our chapter! We are very excited to have her join us on our journey this year; she, too, will be on the Board as Parliamentarian. Although we have gained new members over the past two years, our chapter is still relatively small to others; however, we have extraordinary members willing to go the extra mile and get things accomplished! The by-laws committee met in June to start reviewing our chapter by-laws, and we will be discussing potential revisions at our September meeting. On July 31st we had a summer social event at the City Park and were thankful to have both State President Amber Heinert and Marsha Risseauw of Alpha Phi join us for the festivities. We grilled burgers, hot dogs, ribs, and had many delicious sides to go with our meal. Water gun targets, bocce ball, disc golf, and potato sack races were also held. All family members of current members and potential recruits were invited to the event; and we are excited to announce that we have five potential recruits! Our annual Show-n-Sell event will be held on Saturday, November 21st at the Winner National Guard Armory beginning at 9 am. This event includes many vendor booths, a concession stand, and St. Jude Silent Auction Table. For more information on this event, please check out our event “ESA Beta Alpha’s Annual Show-n-Sell” on Facebook. Concession stand

and admittance moneys will be donated to one or more local organizations in need. This year our educational theme, chosen by Co-Presidents Ashley Augspurger and Tammy Frank, is “Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something About You!” With this concept we hope to bring together both our members who have been in ESA for many years with our newest members to inspire new ideas, events, and leadership opportunities within our chapter. At the same time, each member will learn about each chapter member through communication and teambuilding activities. New projects/events we’re considering at this time include: a paint & pour fundraiser for St. Jude; a bingo fundraiser for Hope for Heroes; and care packages for local, active members of the 155th Engineer Company who will soon be deployed to Kuwait for one year. We cannot believe how fast this summer has gone! School will be starting before we know it which means our meetings will be held more frequently as well! Beta Alpha has had a busy summer working on recruitment tactics, our annual Show-n-Sell event, and brainstorming additional ideas for the future.

Alpha Phi of Winner has been busy this summer with several projects. First have to report that our Memorial Day Repurposed Flower Sale was a huge success again & hats off to the committee for their hard work.

We start the summer off with a “SUNSHINE BASKET”. Four of our members fill their basket with fun, sunshiny items worth \$20 & put \$20 in the envelope & pass the basket to the next name on the list. It comes full circle when the first person on the list, finally, gets a lot of fun filled, sunshiny items from the basket that she started & all the money raised, will be used for a philanthropic project decided by the committee.

**Margaritas, salsa, tortilla chips &
Chip & dip platter. Fun & Sunshiny**



We also have planted, nurtured & watered Red, White, & Blue flowers on Main Street.



The Summer Social committee hosted an Educational trip to a Bee/Honey Farm. The group learned about bees & the work that goes into getting honey from them. Each participant received a sample of honey, along with a great lunch.



Hostesses: Maureen Baker, Kate VandenBark, Sandy Krantz, Joyce Lund, Karen Naasz, & Bonnie Vogt

We continue our Birthday Buddy Program & even though everybody has been busy this summer we all are looking forward to gathering for our Summer Picnic & then starting the meetings in September & of course Fall Rush.

**Greetings from Sunshiny Winner,
Bonnie G.**

We at Alpha Alpha have been very busy this summer also. We are the editors of the Echoes this year so that has kept us busy. The finality of the editing is on Sheri's shoulders as she has just finished summer

school in which one of her classes was computer. We have had a couple of social events within our chapter. We are now working on our fall fundraiser for St. Jude, Children's Inn, and Children's Home Society. It is a bazaar in which we have various vendors including craft vendors come together to sell their wares. It will be on Saturday November 7th from 9:00 until 3:00 at the VFW on South Minnesota Avenue in Sioux Falls.

Chi Omega supported the 2nd Annual Cruisin for St. Jude Poker Run in June. The Poker Run was a success, doubling participants from its inaugural year. Just over 3,000.00 was raised to support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Our Senior St. Jude Representative was on site supporting the event-Thank you Kim! We also tried out the penny raffle this year. \$375.00 was raised to support the SGT Levi Colton Derr Foundation continue its efforts to raise awareness about military PTSD and Suicide and support local Veterans and Service Members and their families in the Black Hills area. Family representatives were on site to share their personal story of how military PTSD and suicide has impacted their family and their efforts to continue to raise awareness and outreach to others who may be struggling and/or impacted by PTSD and suicide. Overall, another very successful event with continued positive feedback and growth. We have lots of ideas to grow in the years to come. Chi Omega is still looking to bring back the infamous simulated horse race event this November. More to come.

Most importantly, Chi Omega is very excited and honored to be hosting state convention next year. Chi Omega is working with Hot Springs chapter Iota Pi to host a great state convention in the beautiful Black Hills. State Convention will be held in Hot Springs SD on 29-30 Apr 2016. Please mark your calendars. More to come at Fall Council and throughout the year. Both chapters are very excited to bring ESA to the Black Hills!

Iota Pi has been busy! Iota Pi also supported the 2nd Annual Cruisin for St. Jude Poker Run. Members helped man bra pong at the stops, manage the silent auction and all the other logistical work that goes into pulling off a successful event! Iota Pi members and families got together at Kim McNemar's house in August for a summer social. Thank you Kim for being a great host! Iota Pi members will be supporting a freshmen student/parent orientation night on Monday, 24 August. Members will have information about ESA, applications, scrapbook, and youth award and scholarship information available along with cookies/drinks etc. We thought this would be a great opportunity to help introduce ESA into the community, help educate freshmen students and families and the school system about the youth awards and scholarship opportunities, and help potentially recruit new ESA members who are looking for a great organization to become a part of. Iota Pi will also be hosting a fundraiser this fall in collaboration with Modern Woodmen of America matching fund program to benefit the local food pantry. Iota Pi has welcomed back a member who had been inactive for the past couple years. Please welcome Billie Bowker when you have the opportunity!

Fall Council is just around the corner! I am putting the information on here for all of you to see and get the registration sent in.

FALL COUNCIL 2015

HATS OFF TO ESA

SEPTEMBER 26TH 2015

THE MEETING SHALL BE HELD AT THE

MITCHELL PUBLIC LIBRARY

221 N Duff St, Mitchell, SD 57301

REGISTRATOIN AT 9:00 AM

MEETING TO START AT 9:30 AM

REGISTRATION \$9 IN ADVANCE OR \$11 AT THE DOOR

SEND REGISTRATION TO MARGIE BY SEPTEMBER 20TH

LUNCH TO FOLLOW AT THE

OVERTIME STEAKHOUSE AND SPORTS BAR

716 N Rowley St

Mitchell, South Dakota 57301

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR A HAT

**ANY INFO YOU WANT IN THE PACKET PLEASE MAIL TO RUTH BEFORE
THE**

SEPTEMBER 12TH

Ruth Creasey

1428 Sharpstone Dr

Mitchell SD 57301

Margie Parks

8808 E Hidden Valley Rd

Sioux Falls SD 57110

FALL COUNCIL REGISTRATION 2015

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE

NUMBER: _____ REGISTRATION FEE: \$9

IN ADVANCE OR \$11 AT THE DOOR. PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE

TO ALPHA SIGMA MAIL REGISTRATION BY SEPTEMBER 20TH TO:

MARGIE PARKS 8808 E HIDDEN VALLEY RD SIOUX FALLS SD 57110

That's all I have for this publication! Have a good fall everyone!