

- Ohio State Council of ESA
- Fall Council meeting and Leadership Seminar  
October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015

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Before the meeting, which was hosted by Sigma Chi, we were served a continental breakfast and had time to meet and greet friends and ESA sisters.

Our Ohio State president, Brenda Myers called to order the fall Ohio State Council meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 at 9:30am. The location was Good Shepherd Catholic Church at 8815 E. Kemper Rd., Cincinnati Ohio, 45236.

Our state Chaplin, Madeleine Kurzynski opened the meeting with a short reflection reminding us to open our eyes to the good in every situation.

Sigma Chi was thanked for hosting the council meeting.

We began with the opening ritual, then the roll call. Officers present were President-Brenda Meyers, Vice President-Joan Farabee, Treasurer-Helen Miracle, Corresponding Secretary-Kathi Silvey, Secretary-Beth Laage, Parliamentarian- Becky Karlak, Jr. Past President and Web Master and MARC Rep. - Judi Grefer, Chaplain-Madeleine Kurzynski, Educational director- Kathleen Seewer, ESA for St. Jude-LuAnn Burke and Jean Bryant, ESA Foundation- Sandy Fuller, MARC Rep. Joan Peddicord and Judi Grefer, Advisor and Historian- Shirley Krcmar, Editor -Amanda Rowland, Easter Seals-Joan Lochterfeld, and MARC Rep. Joan Peddicord. Absent was: Awards Chair-Angie Schultz, Special Projects Chair- Carol Hazelett and youth award chair- Mary Lykins.

Chapter roll call is as follows:

Beta Psi	1 vote	7 pd. Members	7 jewels	0 pledges	16 present
Delta Chi	2	18	18	0	7
Delta Gamma	1	2	3	0	1
Gamma Beta	1	6	6	0	1
Sigma Chi	3	29	19	1	10
Individual Members	-	-	-	-	3

out of state- 0

Guests-0

First time Attendees-1

**Secretary's Report:** It was moved to dispense of the reading of the minutes of the June council meeting. Shirley Krcmar seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was carried.

**Treasure's report:** Beginning Balance as of 6/27/2015 is \$2934.48.

Income- \$2140.00 from chapter dues

Expenses 323.62 Deposit slips and Judi Grefer's lodging at IC

Ending Balance as of 10/3/2015 is \$4750.60

A short break was taken. Brenda asked all in attendance to draw a picture of a pig. How each of us drew the pig, reflected what kind of personality we had. Thanks to Brenda for a fun and interesting diversion. It got everyone talking, sharing some things about ourselves, and getting to know our ESA sisters a little better.

**Business:** Gamma Kappa has chosen not to join the state council this year. However Mdeleine Kurzynski, Rose Wagner, and Amy Hudoba will join as Individual members. It is hoped Gamma Kappa will reevaluate their choice next year. Please send them cards to let them know we are thinking about them.

Lots of new information is being communicated about our IC convention and IC officers in the buckeye Jonquil. Please read the latest issue, and if you have any questions contact Brenda.

Our new IC President is Rickie Brown of California. Her theme is "HOPE ABOUND IN ESA," which will focus on membership growth. You will be hearing more about "Service in Style," and other unique ways to help ESA to grow.

New Rosters were handed out for the 2015-2016 year. Look over carefully. Please let Brenda know if any corrections need to be made. Also, if you would like an electronic copy of the roster, please let Brenda know.

**Jr. Past President and Web Master-** Judi Grefer reported that Ohio raised \$597,596.00 for St. Jude this year, bringing out total since 1972 just over \$6,000,000. Ohio had received a plaque honoring Ohio for our timeless efforts and support for St. Jude!

ESA has again updated the IC web site to keep up with new demands and changing times. Judi went over the website, which is very user friendly, showing us where to find information regarding all kinds of information about ESA ie: IC council, officers, chapter and council management, philanthropic endeavors, ceremonies, IC merchandise, seeing what other chapters are doing, and forms of all kinds. Take some time to familiarize yourself with the new site. If you would like to get hold of any of the IC officers, you need only to click on their pictures to send them an e-mail. Actual e-mail addresses are not shown on the web site for security reasons.

The state convention for Ohio will be held on May 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> 2016. The location will be the same as last year, at the Garden Hilton in West Chester. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.

**Membership-** Madeleine Kurzynski and Judi King explained the importance of growing our membership. It was stated that we talk a lot about growing our membership, but we don't do anything about it. Judi suggested we offer incentives like raffling off a Kindle, Nook, or ipod etc. at membership drives to encourage people to inquire about ESA. They presented ideas for rushes, and ways to increase our ESA population, as well as information on contacting Tracy Swanson from IC, who is always eager to offer help and encouragement. Some of the ideas Maddy talked about were: having a "Choctober" Party, and inviting friends and neighbors, Tastefully Simple and Dove Parties, as well as checking out the new IC web site for more ideas. Maddy had a buffet of chocolate items at the council meeting, including sugar free items, as an example of hosting a Choctober party. Thanks Maddy, that was awesome!!!!

Judi made a motion to set aside \$500.00 per year (money from the anonymous benefactor that Ohio received) and use that money for recruiting tools, ie: raffling off items to encourage membership. Joan Peddicord 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The motion was carried.

**Educational-** Kathleen Seewer suggested chapters to look into the new web site for ideas on educational and to see what other chapters are doing, also, to check out our own ESA history. Just a reminder that the next educational are due Oct .10<sup>th</sup>, and can be mailed to Kathleen

**.St. Jude-** LuAnne Burke reported the dream home this year was a success and a sellout, raising \$ 800,817.00. Also, the walk- a- thon, in Newport in September raised \$46,000.so far, with money still coming in. Next year, the walk-a-thon will include a run...so it will be a walk/run!!!!

Shirley Krcmar reported that the Cleveland dream home raised \$1.8 million and sold out in 45 minutes. Shirley contributed their quick sell out , in large part, to their TV stations in Cleveland, which are continually talking about the St. Jude dream home, and the wonderful things St. Jude does to save kids!

LuAnne talked about ways their chapter, Sigma Chi, has worked in the past to raise money for St. Jude. Because of all the work involved in the Bunco nights, their chapter has decided to replace Bunco night with "Shop for St. Jude". The big challenge in hosting this event is getting the word out to the community. The event is held in the fall, close to Christmas, so it is a great place to start Christmas shopping. Please check out the dates and tell your friends about shopping for St. Jude.

Other potential fundraisers for St. Jude: host a couples Bunco night, attend a painting party, put donation boxes at wine tastings and other locations, have a wine tasting party, and check the ESA web site to see what other chapters are doing around the country.

Our chapter fund raiser for this year is similar to last year, but instead of 'Breaking the bank" for st. Jude, we will be "Filling our Purse" for St. Jude. Each chapter is asked to decorate a purse and fill with all your loose change. In May, at the convention, we will tally what we have raised, and auction off our purse creations.

***Very Important: Don't forget to fill out your Booked Event forms for all your St. Jude fund raisers, and submit them to ESA Headquarters. Remember to send LuAnne a copy. The forms can be downloaded from the ESA web site.***

**Foundation-** Sandy Fuller reported that Ohio was presented with several awards for their monetary donations. The Bronze Plateau of Achievement (\$250-\$400), was presented to the Sigma Chi Chapter, and the Crystal Plateau of Achievement (\$1000 to \$4999) was presented to Judi Grefer of Beta Psi.

Sandy also has some of the Ohio endowment recipient's thank you letters and photos, as well as a list of the 2015 ESA Foundation Scholarship winners. She would be glad to share them with anyone who is interested. A total of 194 scholarships were awarded throughout ESA.

Sandy is in the process of sending emails to all the high school counselors to remind them to go on the ESA Foundation website and encourage their students to apply for the many scholarships available. Ohio was one of the top 10 states to have the largest increase of applications this past year.

Sandy is asking again, that if you have not yet joined the foundation, please consider doing so. The cost of membership is \$25.00 the first year, with yearly dues of \$15.00. What a great deal!!!!!!

**MARC-**Joan Peddicord and Judi Grefer reminded everyone the MARC conference will be held October 9-11 in Omaha Nebraska. The theme is "Sharing Country Pleasures". The Friday Leadership will have 4 speakers, and the Friday night entertainment will be the "Dancing Grannies". The philanthropic project for the conference will be Project Harmony, which is a local Child Protection Center. They will be collecting new and unused items in the way of children's clothing, items for kids and the families served, and/or items for the center itself. Also, \$5.00 gift cards from Target, Wal-Mart, and Starbucks gift cards to the teenagers would be greatly appreciated. A list of additional items was added to the MARC report.

Also, needed are bottles of wine and liquor for the Foundation Auction and items for the Accessory Auction.

**Santa Hugs-**Brenda Meyers reported that 4000 hugs were promised to Santa America. So far, ESA has contributed 2600 hugs, so we are still in need of 1400. Please go back to your chapters and discuss the Hug project. Let Brenda know if your chapter will continue to contribute to this project and about how many can you provide? We would like the project to be completed by March so we can then concentrate on the Hope for Hero's project, which is making pillow cases for our soldiers.

**Easter Seals-**Shirley Krcmar read a thank you card from Melissa Kocher at Easter Seals thanking ESA Ohio for all the donations that we collected at the May convention. They were very grateful for our contributions.

The meeting was adjourned and our closing ritual was recited.

Beth Laage presented a work shop on making luminaries for Halloween. Each ESA sister made a luminary to take home, with all the supplies to light up! Happy Halloween to all!!!

Lunch-At this time Brenda had asked everyone to bring in pictures of their chapter to “share our ESA connections and friendships.”

After lunch Judi King and the Membership committee presented a “Connect Thru ESA- Service is in Style” workshop.

Janet Ivers presented a workshop on membership retention.

Kathi Silvey presented a workshop on how your personality reflects the way you dress and what styles you are comfortable in. She also talked about accessorizing!

Amanda Roland presented a work shop on ideas for recruiting new members/chapters through community outreach.

Janet Ivers presented a “connect thru Service” presentation, introducing Janet Milne, a speaker from Ohio Alzheimers’s Association. Janet informed us of signs and sympton, as well as other information about Alzheimer’s.

Judi Grefer and several board members talked about their favorite apps on their phones, ipads, and/or tablets.

The meeting and workshops adjourned at 3PM.

Submitted by Beth Laage, Secretary      October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Approved by: Brenda Meyers, President    October 18<sup>th</sup> 2015