

**Virginia State Council
Epsilon Sigma Alpha International
General Board Meeting
March 25, 2006**

The spring meeting of the Virginia State Council was called to order at 10:02 at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel in Staunton, Virginia. Voting delegates were issued index cards to use as their vote indicators.

Opening Ritual: All members stood to recite the Opening Ritual.

Chaplain’s Message: Bev Scott asked the membership to have a “moment of smiles” in honor of Fran Lanning. She also presented a lovely message using a jar, golf balls, rocks, sand, and coffee. The meaning of her message was “No matter how full your life may seem there’s always room for a cup of coffee”. Her message was enlightening and well received by the membership.

Welcome: Lisa Files welcomed everyone to Staunton on behalf of the Blue Ridge District Council consisting of Alpha Chi, Alpha Omicron, and Beta Omicron.

Minute Approval Committee: The appointed committee to approve the minutes of this meeting will be Brenda Orebaugh and Sue Foy.

Recognitions: Lynne “quickly” introduced the head table, VSC Past Presidents, Lisa Files, Blue Ridge District Council President, and chapter Presidents. We had one guest, Elizabeth Hill.

Credentials Report: Millie Simmons reported the following:

Chapters on Roll	20
Chapters Represented	14
Members Present	56
Officers Present	6
DESA’s /guests	1
MALs	0
Votes—Officers	6
Votes—Delegates	21
Votes	27

A quorum was declared.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes of the June meeting were approved by Sandy Reed and Beverly Wright.

Correspondence: Marie LaDuke received letters of absence from:
Jane Shamblin
Beth Sherron

June Mitchell
Gayle Meeks

Reports of Elected Officers:

First Vice President: Cindy Maxwell

Cindy reported on her trip to IC Leadership in Denver (ESA Flight School). She received many ideas that she hopes to utilize next year. She is going to place information in the chapter folders on the upcoming IC Convention in Palm Desert, California. She is also going to place forms for the General Board Positions for the 2006-2007 sorority year in the chapter folders.

Cindy reported that the June VSC meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Virginia Beach. The room rates are \$119. Coffee, juice and Danish will be available from 9:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. The meeting will begin at 10:00.

The following ladies were presented by the Nominating Committee Chairman, Cindy Maxwell, as officer candidates for the 2006-2007 VSC Executive Board:

President: Cindy Maxwell
1st Vice President: Jane Shamblin
2nd Vice President: Sheen Childress
Recording Secretary: Ginger Yopp
Treasurer: Judy Williams
Parliamentarian: Wanda English
Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Smith
Junior Past President: Lynne Rightmyer

Second Vice President: Marie LaDuke for Jane Shamblin

Jane Shamblin was absent due to a broken ankle. She was originally planning to attend a wedding this weekend but is now resting at home.

Recording Secretary: Sheen Childress

Sheen reminded everyone to please email a copy of their report to her if they are able. This greatly helps when typing the minutes.

Corresponding Secretary: Marie LaDuke

Marie reported that the yearbooks were judged and will be on display at our convention in May. Thank you to Vilma Graves, P-Nuts Schools and Dot Brown for all their diligence in judging this contest. Marie will place a reminder for the incoming chapter Presidents to prepare and bring their new rosters to convention. She also will provide the chapters with a complete roster of the current SERC Officers and Committees.

Treasurer: Ginger Yopp presented the financial report as follows:

Balance on Hand October 2, 2005	\$ 2,739.55
<u>Deposits</u>	
10/04/05 – Chapter Dues -	\$259.00
Chinese Auction	\$381.00

Yearbook	\$ 5.00
Total	\$ 645.00
10/17/05 – Chapter Dues	\$ 182.00
Yearbooks	\$ 30.00
Total	\$ 212.00
10/31/05 Chapter Dues	\$ 42.00
12/11/05 Check # 1003 Voided	\$ 25.00
01/10/06 Chapter Dues	\$ 35.00
02/28/06 Chapter Dues-2 nd Half	\$ 266.00
03/10/06 Chapter Dues-2 nd Half	\$ 175.00
03/24/06 Chapter Dues-2 nd Half	\$ 371.00
Total Deposits	\$1,771.00
<u>Disbursements</u>	
Ck # 1003 – 10/2/05 – Lynne Rightmyer Fall Leadership Registration	\$ 25.00
CK # 1004 – 10/2/05 – Jane Shamblin IC Convention Seminar	\$ 50.00
Ck # 1005 – 10/2/05 – Doris Hood IC Convention Foundation	\$ 50.00
Ck # 1006 – 10/2/05 – Marie LaDuke State Yearbook	\$ 25.00
Ck # 1007 – 10/2/05 – Beth Sherron State Yearbook	\$ 175.00
Ck # 1008 – 12/11/05 – Lynne Rightmyer SERC Convention Expenses	\$ 411.63
Ck # 1009 – 12/12/05 – SERC (Dues)	\$ 15.00
Ck # 1010 – 03/24/06 – Cindy Maxwell Leadership	\$798.90
Total Disbursements	\$1,550.53
Balance on Hand 03/25/06	\$ 2,960.02
Savings Account October 2, 2005	\$ 1,372.57
Interest	\$ 1.45
Total as of December 31, 2005	\$ 1,374.02

Note – Check # 1003 voided – not in VSC budget.

She also reported that she received first half dues from 19 chapters on time and 1 late. She reminded the membership that second half dues are due on April 1st and will be past due on April 15th.

It was motioned that the budget be amended to cover the additional cost of the 2006 VSC Convention. Since this motion came from the Executive board, no second was required. The motion was carried and the budget will be amended from \$405.00 to \$495 to cover

half of the seven Executive Board Officers registration fees for the 2006 Convention and the full registration for the state president.

Parliamentarian: Nicole Lewis

No report

Jr. Past President: Marie LaDuke for Beth Sherron

The “sister’s shoes” idea encouraged our members to raise \$5,411.61 to date for the Disaster Fund. Beth is very proud of her Virginia sisters. She is very excited about her upcoming trip to St. Jude Children’s Hospital as the upcoming Circle of Life Coordinator and the opportunity to learn about some of the new fundraisers for next year.

At this time, Lynne gave us an update on the changes to the Appointed Board for this year. They are as follows:

Judy Williams- Circle of Life

Bev Scott- Chaplain

Beth Sherron- Circle of Life 2006-2007 This will begin at the end of this sorority year.

Lisa Hale- Philanthropic

Association of the Arts- We are in need of someone for this position. We need to fill this position, otherwise we will not be able to have the contest at Convention.

Appointed Officer Reports

Awards: Susan Caldwell

Susan reminded the chapter awards chairmen that the Awards form, which she placed in the chapter folders should be postmarked and mailed to her by May 1st. She also asked the award directors to send the names of the award winner to both she and Lynne by May 10th. Lastly, she asked that the 2004-2005 award winners please return the traveling trophies today. She asked that anyone who forgot to bring the trophy please see her at the end of the meeting to arrange a delivery.

Susan noted that she now has a new email address: susancaldwellva@comcast.net

Chaplain: Bev Scott

Bev gave us the following list of individual she has sent cards to:

Sympathy

Peggy Thompson-loss of husband

B.J.Clark- loss of mother

Neagles Family and Alpha Tau- death of Dorothy

Neda Duncan- death of mother

Cindy Wright Malone- death of father –in-law

Helen Lake- death of brother-in-law

Linda Wyatt- death of husband

Get Well/ Thinking of You

Jackie Parker

Dorothy Neagle

Roxie Toth

Jamie Bray (Becky’s husband)

Ken Wilcox (MAL Dotti's husband)
Gayle Meeks
Marg Rushford
Fran Lanning
Linda Rudiger
Gene Gorham (Catherine's husband and Beth's father)
Jan Grefer (IC Foundation Director)
Iless Gisiner (Shelby's sister)
Shelby Hodges

Circle of Life: Judy Williams

Judy Williams is filling in as Circle of Life chairperson until May. She placed the new Flora Burns Circle of Life Award form with her name, address, and email, in the chapter folders. Please continue to send copies of the booked event forms and donation forms to her as well.

She has been watching the Virginia donations to St. Jude grow and she anticipates a jump as final donations for the year are made. May 31st is the deadline for donations for 2006. After May 31st, donations will go toward the 2007 totals.

Dance for the Kids of St. Jude is a new fund raiser at IC. She placed a copy of this brochure in the chapter folders. \$200 will qualify you to participate in ESA's dance in Palm Desert, California. IC has challenged us to create new fund raising events.

Judy also included information on the quilts for St. Jude in the chapter folders.

She encouraged everyone to use the ESA website at www.esaintl.com for copies of forms. Forms can be sent electronically-no more mail.

Convention: Beverley Wright

Beverley gave us an update on the 2006 VSC Convention. She invited everyone to come for a wonderful, fun-filled weekend exploring the Victorian Days of ESA. The city of Staunton will be welcoming us to visit the many coffee shops, antique shops, the Farmers' Market, the free trolley rides, the birthplace of former President Woodrow Wilson, and the Museum of American Frontier Culture. Staunton is also the birthplace of the Statler Brothers, who have retired back to their hometown.

She gave us some very important dates including:

1. April 4th- Deadline for making hotel reservations.
2. April 15th- Deadline for Convention registration. Registration forms were placed in the chapter folders last year, printed in the Fall issue of the Lamplighter, and emailed to every chapter. Please see Betty Allen, Convention Registration Chairman, for details.
3. April 15th Deadline for Convention brochure ads. Information was forwarded via email to all chapters. Please send Ad/Art work to Debbie Frazier, 229 River Road, Waynesboro, Virginia, 22980. Checks should be payable to the 2006 VSC Convention.

Easter Seals: Gaynell Krista

Gaynell reported that there are many programs available nationally, but she really believes that we should concentrate on Easter Seals Virginia. Monetary donations or volunteering to assist with fundraisers, or helping Camp Easter Seals in New Castle, Virginia are ways we can help. Even if there are no fundraising activities where you live,

your chapter can always send money to the Easter Seals Virginia office in Richmond or you can send your money directly to Camp Easter Seals.

She placed information in the chapter folders from the Easter Seals office in Salem, which is an abbreviated list of information from those brochures that she distributed at the Summer Council Meeting. The second page, "Ways to Help Easter Seals Virginia," provides a list of Program Supplies, and it designates whether that item will go towards the Camp or the Lekotek Program, etc. For instance, one item on the list is pretend play materials, like cooking sets, play vacuum and dust pans, tool benches, baby doll care sets, and these items are used to encourage Lekotek children to role play. Another is personal care items, and it is specified that these items are to be used by campers. Another category is Volunteer Labor, and the last one is Financial Assistance. For instance, the true cost of a 6-day camp session for one camper is \$1,600. The fee to campers is \$825 for the 6-day session.

Between now and State Convention, she encourages us to check out the list and then bring some of the items to Convention and give them to her. She will then take them to the Easter Seals Office where they can be distributed to the proper program.

She has only received a handful of reports so far, so please be sure to send them to her as soon as possible. She has placed another Chapter Report Form in each of the chapter folders.

The Rally in the Valley, which is a motorcycle bike tour to be held in Southwest Virginia, has been postponed perhaps to be held in the Fall. She spoke to Tara Hazelbaker, who is President of Easter Seals Virginia and learned that Linda Hamilton, who was the Chief Development Officer, is no longer with Easter Seals. Therefore, because of reduced staff, there is really not ample time to plan the bike tour for this Spring.

Gaynell informed us of another fundraising opportunity that took place Friday, March 31, and Saturday, April 1. It was Two Day Charity Days that was held at the Belk store at Valley View Mall in Roanoke. There were several charity organizations there besides Easter Seals, and the more volunteers that are there for a particular organization, then the more percentage of the proceeds went that organization. She said all area chapters could participate. Even chapters from around the state could help.

Don't forget to save your cartridges and cell phones and turn them in to the recycling project. The best way to contact them is by calling the toll-free number, which is 1-800-420-0234. They will ask you a couple of questions to identify who you are then you will receive the pre-printed labels.

Educational: Lisa Hale

Lisa reported that she has received at least one report from 13 of the 20 chapters this year. She has enjoyed reading all the reports. She placed the Distinguished Athenian nomination information in the chapter folders along with the Gold Link and Barbara Midkiff Educational Award guidelines. The April reports must be postmarked no later than May 1st to be considered "on-time". Please have the Distinguished Athenian Nomination to her by May 1st. You can either mail or email this to her. Make sure to

include a brief description of the special educational accomplishment which qualifies your Chapter Educational Director for the award.

ESA Foundation: Doris Hood

Doris reported her part of this year's Scholarship Program is over and she is near the end of her two year appointment. This year there was a change, which allowed each applicant to submit applications for three separate scholarships. Unfortunately, she did not have as many applicants this year. She suggested that we make sure every school in our area receives at least one application and information on accessing the website. She received 92 applications, of which, 16 were disqualified for various reasons. Most of the applications were received at the last minute so she wasn't able to contact the student about a possible "fix" before they were sent to the Regional Coordinator. The date the application must be postmarked by and sent to the State Counselor is February 1st. If they arrive early and there is a problem she can contact the student.

Lastly, she reminded us that all monies (dues, donation, turn-around-funds) go directly to the Foundation not the State Counselor.

Finance: Sherry Flesher

Sherry told us how many envelopes were left for purchase for the Chinese Auction and she thanked the chapters for donating items.

Historian: Bonnie Feldhauser

Bonnie asked that everyone compile their chapter histories and send her copies to be place in Lynne's History. Please remember that chapter histories should be submitted in outline form. They should be typed or printed with the chapter name, number, and location appearing on the title page. Chapters need to submit three copies of their history. One will go to Lynne and the other two will be returned with the judges scoring sheets and comments. Remember to check your bylaws for the guidelines on how the history will be judged. She also placed copies of the guidelines in the chapter folders. The deadline to submit is May 1st. Entries should be mailed to: Bonnie S. Feldhauser, 426 Happy Creek Road, Front Royal, Virginia, 22630. Her email address is: feld@shentel.net. Her phone numbers are: 540-636-6776 (home) and 540-551-0548 (cell)
The winners will be announced at Convention and all the histories will be presented to Lynne at the June meeting. Even if you are not interested in your history being judged, please think about sending Bonnie a copy to be put with Lynne's.

Lamplighter: Nicole Lewis for Diane McLane

Diane asked everyone please send her some articles for the Lamplighter. She is combining the Winter and Spring issues and will deliver it in early May prior to the Convention. She asked that officers, chapters, and ladies running for office include articles in the Lamplighter. She also asked for fund raising ideas that will be included in a special section. She thanked everyone who has already sent an article. Please send your articles before April 24th to: dianemclane@comcast.net or Diane McLane, 11861 Wexwood Drive, Richmond, Virginia, 23236. Her phone number is: 804-794-6049.

Leadership: Brenda Orebaugh

Brenda reported that we had 69 paid registrations at Leadership. At Leadership, she asked the membership if they make a change in the VSC what would it be. She had 49 responses returned to her, which were typed and forwarded to Lynne and shared in the February newsletter. There were some good suggestions and Brenda appreciated the input. She enjoyed hosting the Leadership Conference and hopes those who attended took home a little piece of information that will enhance their enthusiasm and dedication to ESA in years to come.

On another note, Gayle Meeks asked Brenda to let everyone know how much she appreciates all the cards she has received since October. She had another surgery on Thursday and is doing well. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Philanthropic: Lisa Hale

Lisa reminded everyone that final reports are due on April 10th.

Publicity: Noel Lukeson- No report

Scrapbook: P'Nut Schools

P'Nut reported that she has not received a lot of pictures for Lynne's photo album. She would like to have all the chapters represented. Please send her photos of the various events and activities you have done with your chapter this year.

SERC- Kay Swisher

The SERC is raffling off a freshwater cultured pearl and Swarovski crystal necklace and earring set. Tickets were placed in the chapter folders. Please mail the money and stubs to Kay Swisher at: 34 Swisher Truck Lane, Staunton, Virginia, 24401

Social: LeAnne Gill- No report

State Project :Jean Bowman-Mullikin

Jean presented the following information about Special Love and Ask:

That Special Love has listed the VSC of ESA as a co-sponsor of their Spring Family Weekend. We are a co-sponsor because the costs associated with this weekend of fun runs about \$15,000 and we have only donated about a 1/3 of that annually. On the weekend of March 10-12, Tidewater Family Weekend was held at the 4-H Camp in Williamsburg. This was sponsored by three families in the Tidewater area. If this continues it may be possible that chapters in the Tidewater and Richmond area might be able to participate. Spring Family Weekend at the 4-H Camp at Front Royal will be held April 21-23. If anyone would like more information, please let Jean know and she will send the information.

Our monies for ASK goes to the Penny Tree Project. This project involves the complete renovation and furnishing of a new clinic at MCV in Richmond. This clinic will be solely for pediatric cancer patients. Many of us were able to visit MCV when the

Leadership Conference was held 2 years ago in Richmond. Theresa Seay was conference chairman and was able to make this possible.

We have only raised a little over \$2500.00 so far this year. This is only about half as much as we had raised last year at this time. Last year we raised \$7400.00. We have a long way to go. Jean had hoped we would be able to raise \$10,000.00 this year or at least raise more than last year's total.

Our State Projects are not only providers of much-needed services to Virginia's pediatric cancer patients & their families, but both of these organizations depend upon us to assist them. Jean can take chapter or personal donations. The deadline for entries for the Dot Harcum State Project Award is May 1st. She placed a copy of the form in the chapter folders. Please make sure you complete a form and enclose it with your check(s) and most importantly that the check be made payable to the "VSC State Project Fund." All of these instructions are on the entry form.

It is time for all of us to realize that we need to dig a little deeper if we are to be "ESA Heroes to the kids at ASK and Special Love."

Workshops: Amanda Wright

Amanda gave a wonderful presentation about the workshops by using clever pictures. She encouraged members to come to Convention and learn something new from the workshops they plan to attend. Each chapter president will receive 2 copies of the workshop brochure at the presidents' workshop. Amanda asked the workshop presenters to prepare a 5 minute introduction of a "hero" in the area they are presenting. An example would be Beth leading the chapter presidents' workshop and choosing a president she admires to introduce. The following ladies will be presenting workshops at convention on Saturday morning:

Beth Sherron- Chapter Presidents'

Susan Caldwell- Awards

Judy Williams- Circle of Life

Gaynell Krista- Easter Seals

Lisa Hale—Educational

Doris Hood- ESA Foundation

Sherry Flesher- Finance

Lisa Hale- Philanthropic

Noel Lukeson- Publicity

Leanne Gill- Social

Only one session covering each area will be presented on Saturday morning so make plans now to attend. Amanda also reminded the ladies who are preparing the workshops give their information they will be presenting to her no later than Saturday, April 15th.

President's Report: Lynne Rightmyer

Lynne had the membership complete the "Test Your Lifetime" quiz that estimated your life expectancy based on your family history, location, and lifestyle. It was a very

interesting quiz. She also spoke about author Maya Angelou and her appearance on the Oprah show. The message was to enjoy your life and live it to the fullest.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Shelby Hodges informed us that the PPAs have decided the VSC ESA Award would remain in Fran Lanning's name and would be sponsored by Jean Bowman-Mullikin.

Peggy Thompson spoke on behalf of Delta Rho, Front Royal and Alpha Omega, Winchester. She gave a brief history on Special Love, one of our state projects. Special Love was founded in 1983 and will celebrate their 25th anniversary in 2007. She described Camp Fantastic, which is held in Front Royal every August. Camp Fantastic is a week long adventure for children who have cancer. It is an opportunity for the children "just be kids". Special Love programs are not just about being sick. They are about building a community of essential support for the patients and their families. The Spring Weekend in April is sponsored by the VSC of ESA. The Monday evening carnival, at Camp Fantastic, in August is hosted by Delta Rho.

She also commented on our other state project, ASK, which is located in Richmond. Many of us were very lucky to be able to tour the MCV/ASK facility where children go for treatment. It offers encouragement and togetherness and they have a great staff with tons of volunteers.

The two chapters proposed that the state projects continue to be Special Love and ASK for the next two years. This item will be voted on by the VSC at our May, 2006 Convention.

Marie La Duke invited everyone to the 2007 VSC Convention, which will be held at the Holiday Inn Select/Koger South Conference Center in Richmond, Virginia. Room rates will be \$89 per night. The theme will be "Virginia Women Making History- Then and Now".

Announcements- Lynne presented the following announcements:

VSC Convention will take place on May 19-21st at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel in Staunton. There will be no IC representative. The SERC Representative will be Lois Soileau, Parliamentarian from Louisiana. Her address is:

5956 Dixie Lane
Alexandria, LA 71301
ljslala@bellsouth.net

IC will take place on July 25-29th at Marriott's Desert Springs Resort and Spa in Palm Desert, California.

Theresa Seay is running for IC Recording Secretary and was just recently engaged.

Lynne reminded everyone to pick up and sign for the chapter folders.

Adjournment-

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 A.M., with all joining hands for the Closing Ritual.

The Chinese Auction was held immediately following the Closing Ritual.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheen Campbell Childress
VSC Recording Secretary

Approved: Sue Foy Date: April 25, 2006
Approved: Brenda Orebaugh Date: April 25, 2006