

**Virginia State Council
Epsilon Sigma Alpha
General Board Meeting
October 2, 2011**

Call to Order:

The Fall General Board meeting of the Virginia State Council of Epsilon Sigma Alpha International was held on Sunday, October 2, 2011 at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House and Conference Center in Fredericksburg, VA. President Ginger Yopp called the meeting to order at 10am. She noted that voting delegates were issued colored index cards upon registering. Ginger asked that all stand and join her in our updated Opening Ritual. IC modified the opening ritual to reflect the changing ESA membership.

Chaplain's Message:

Mildred Edwards gave an inspirational reading called the "Sisterhood of Traveling Sailboats". It spoke of how people come in and out of our lives all the time but how truly important our "sisters" are to us in life. She closed with a blessing for our dear sister and friend, Jane Shamblin.

Welcome:

Sandy Reed welcomed everyone to Fredericksburg.

Recognitions/Introductions:

Ginger shared with us "Who's on Board". To that end, she introduced her executive board members – the "First Mates": Kristine Williamson, Parliamentarian; Carol Campbell, Second Vice President; Kathy Gibbons, Treasurer; Beth Sherron, First Vice President; Suzanne Budd, Recording Secretary; Gaynell Krista, Corresponding Secretary and Judy Williams, Jr. Past President. The PPAs are our "Navigators", as they help make our sailing smooth. Ginger asked each Past President to stand and share the location and their most memorable moment from the Leadership conference they attended when they were the VSC President.

The following in attendance were also recognized:

Members attending their first VA State Meeting: Mildred Edwards introduced Alpha Xi's new member Belle Robinson and Doris Hood introduced Beta Tau's newest pledge Cindy Medvick. Ginger asked the 2011-2012 Chapter Presidents to stand for recognition.

Minutes Approval Committee:

Sheen Childress and Flora Burns.

Credentials Report:

Jane Harris, Betty Cason & Jackie Nash

→ Attendance

Chapters on Roll:	19
Chapters Present at Meeting:	16

VSC Officers Present:	8
Members Present:	47
DESAs Present:	0
MALs Present:	0
Guests Present:	<u>0</u>
Total Present at Meeting:	55

→ Number of Votes Present

VSC Executive Board/Officer Votes:	7
# Chapter Delegate Votes:	28
Proxy Votes:	<u>0</u>
Total Votes:	35

A quorum was declared.

Rules of Meeting:

The Rules of Meeting are part of the VSC Standing Rules and as such do not need to be read at each meeting.

Correspondence:

Gaynell Krista read the correspondence received since the June Council Meeting: Ginger received a note of Thanks for her Prayers and Thoughts about Jane from the Shamblin Family. Sue Williams (SERC President) sent Ginger a note expressing her condolences regarding ESA's loss of Jane Shamblin. Rose Pasillas (IC President) sent Ginger a note expressing her condolences to the members of the VSC and Jane's husband regarding the loss of Jane Shamblin. Notes of regret for missing Leadership and the Fall VSC Council Meeting were received from Sue Stone, Sharon Shaffer & Betty Allen. Ginger also received a letter of encouragement from Rose Pasillas. Rose also shared that Sandy Alexander (IC Parliamentarian) will be our IC Representative for the 2011-2012 VSC Convention.

Financial Report:

Kathy Gibbons presented the financial report. The treasurer's report shows a balance forwarded (as of 6/15/11, when the books were closed by the previous VSC Treasurer) of \$2310.18. There was \$1246 in reported income and \$1184.17 in disbursements. That leaves a total Balance on Hand (as of 9/30/11) of \$2372.01. The treasurer's report also shows a savings account balance forwarded (as of 6/15/11, when the books were closed by the previous VSC Treasurer) of \$881.90. We earned \$0.22 in interest, which leaves a total Savings Account Balance (as of 9/30/11) of \$882.12. No questions from the membership were brought forward, so the report will be filed for review. NOTE: The full financial report has been filed and is part of the VSC permanent records.

Approval of the Spring Council meeting Minutes:

The Minutes approval committee consisted of Betty Cason & Beverley Wright. Beverley reported that the Minutes of the June 25, 2011 VSC Council Meeting were approved as published. The approved Minutes were distributed via email. The committee was dismissed.

Report of the 2010-2011 Audit Committee:

The Audit committee consisted of Millie Simmons and Sara Carr. Millie's chapter sister Emily Wagner volunteered to step in and assist with the audit after the passing of Sara. The audit has been completed for all 3 sets of books for 2010-2011: VSC Treasury, VSC Convention, & VSC State Projects. All records were found to be in proper order and free of material errors and/or omissions. The committee was dismissed.

Reports of Elected Officers:

1st Vice President: Beth Sherron

Beth was honored to attend IC Convention in Kansas with Ginger. Beth also shared some exciting news that she and Ben are planning a move into her Mother's house. But please continue to use her current address until they are actually living in the house. She will provide everyone with her change of address information once the move is complete. She has put both the "Willing to Serve" and "Candidates for Office" forms in the chapter folders. Read the VSC bylaws for full descriptions of the available board positions. Full report is on file.

2nd Vice President: Carol Campbell

October is membership month and ESA is encouraging us to make this the biggest membership drive ever. Carol shared some tips on what we can do to grow membership. Consider participating in the "ESA Seedling Exchange". Invite friends and family to an activity or social or even a modified meeting. Consider starting an Élan chapter and recruit DESAs at the same time. Some people might think ESA is strictly a college Greek sorority, which is not true at all. So be sure to let them know that ESA is for everyone!! There are currently no membership specials but they are sending out a "Ask me about ESA" reusable shopping bag for anyone that pledges a new member. There is also a way to have your dues paid using the Ambassador program. All of this information will be in your chapter folders. Full report is on file.

Recording Secretary: Suzanne Budd

Suzanne reported that the transcribed and approved minutes from the Summer VSC General Board meeting were distributed via email. As specified in the VSC Bylaws, the Approved Minutes were sent via email to the 2011-2012 Chapter Presidents, 2011-2012 VSC Executive Board, 2011-2012 VSC Appointed Board, 2010-2011 SERC President, 2011-2012 IC President, ESA HQ and the PPAs. If you are on this list and did not receive a copy of the minutes via email, please contact Suzanne. In addition, Suzanne requested that any changes in contact information be provided to her so that she may update the Minutes distribution list. Flora Burns made a request from the floor to add Sandy Alexander to the Minutes distribution list – as she is our IC Representative for the 2011-2012 VSC Convention. Suzanne will add Sandy to the email distribution list. Full report is on file.

Corresponding Secretary: Gaynell Krista

Gaynell reported that the VSC Yearbooks are finished. She also requested that anyone that still needs to turn in their Chapter Yearbook, please do so today. Please notify Gaynell of any contact information updates. Millie Simmons (our Workshop Coordinator) has a new email address – please make note of this change: MilBobSimmons@gmail.com. A special thanks to Beth Sherron for putting together the Yearbook CDs. Beth noted that the yearbook was created in Office2007 (*.docx) but had to be converted to Word2003 document (*.doc) as anyone with an older copy of Word will not be able to open the (newer type) *.docx files. Please keep that in mind when sending out information to our members. If you are running a newer version of Office, please be sure when you save your files, be sure to SAVE AS TYPE Word Document *.doc document.

Treasurer: Kathy Gibbons

Kathy reported that as of 9/30/11, there were 8 chapters that had not paid their VSC first half dues. She has received a few checks today. She has placed in the chapter folders notices for unpaid dues as well as receipts for payments received. There is also a new IC Dues form in your chapter folders. Please contact Kathy if you need a voucher for a budgeted expense. Full report on file.

Parliamentarian: Kristine Williamson

The VSC Bylaws, Standing Rules and Contests and Awards have been revised to reflect all changes voted on during the 2011 Convention. They have been distributed via email. The updated documents are contained in the VSC Yearbook and on the VSC Website. Please contact Kristine if you need a copy.

Jr. Past President: Judy Williams

Judy passed the bucket to collect Disaster Fund donations. We have weathered some recent storms (earthquakes and fires) here in Virginia, but other parts of the country have not fared as well. Please lend a hand to those sisters that may need our help. Full report is on file.

President: Ginger Yopp

Ginger reported how much she enjoyed Leadership and extended her thanks and appreciation to Doris Hood and Sandy Reed for taking on the responsibilities after our great loss of Jane Shamblin. Ginger also shared a little about the wonderful experience she had at IC Convention. Two highlights of the trip were carrying the Virginia state flag for the Flag Ceremony and the St. Jude presentation. Ginger thanked her VSC sisters for the beautiful charm bracelet she received during IC Convention. She likes to show it off and share with others what each charm represents. She also thanked Beth for the beautiful bag she gave her at Leadership. In just a few weeks, Ginger will be traveling to SERC. Ginger conveyed how much she is enjoying her role as VSC President and urged others to consider this rewarding experience. She expressed what an honor it is to serve as VSC President and thanked all the members for this opportunity.

Reports of Appointed Board:

Chaplain – Mildred Edwards (PPA, Alpha Xi):

Mildred gave thanks to Shelby and Ginger for their help as she has been experiencing some internet connectivity issues. Please forgive her if she has missed any emails or cards during this time. She has sent out 18 Get Well and Thinking of you cards during July, August and September as well as a sympathy

card to the family of our dear sister Jane Shamblin. She has placed a few phone calls as well. If she missed anyone, she expressed her regrets. Please keep emailing her. Remember that God places people in your path of life for a reason. What would people say about you if you died today? What would be your testimony that you leave this world? In closing, we shared a moment of silence and a prayer for our dearly departed sister Jane Shamblin.

Circle of Life – Brenda Orebaugh (PPA, Gamma Pi):

Gil Hodges (Beta Delta) discussed “The Heart of St. Jude” candle program as offered by his company Naked Soy (name changed from Waxing Poetic). The Executive Board has approved this as a suggested (not mandatory) project for all VSC chapters. This is an update to the existing St. Jude candle program first introduced at the VSC Summer meeting. Naked Soy is selling a St. Jude inspired candle for a retail price of \$20 (thanks to Lisa Hale for the artwork). Instead of \$5 from the sale of each candle being donated directly to St. Jude by Naked Soy, they will instead donate \$5 from each candle sold to the individual chapter that participates in the program and sells candles. The chapter can then use the proceeds to benefit their chapter ways and means and/or philanthropic program(s). The program will continue through the entirety of Ginger’s presidency (and possibly beyond). Gil noted that orders of 12 candles are easiest to package and ship, but orders of any size are accepted. Naked Soy will pay shipping costs. If your chapter chooses to participate, please choose a program representative to gather orders, collect money, place the order with Gil and coordinate delivery to your customers. Please account for approximately 10 days turnaround on all orders. If there are any questions, please contact Gil. His phone number is 804-937-9021. His email address is on the forms that have been placed in your chapter folders. Brenda Orebaugh then asked for any questions from the floor. Being none, Brenda moved that we accept the candle project that Naked Soy proposed to the state ESA chapters as a fundraiser for individual chapters with the profit going into the chapter treasury. Since the voluntary project was approved by the Executive Board, no second was required. Ginger brought the vote to the floor. The motion was carried.

Convention Chair – Betty Allen (PPA, Alpha Chi):

Millie Simmons (Alpha Chi) reported that the Blue Ridge District members are excited about “Mardi Gras in the Valley” May 25-27, 2012 at the Best Western Inn and Convention Center in Waynesboro. Registration for women is \$130. Registration for men is \$70. The VSC Spring Council meeting on March 24, 2012 will also be held at this same hotel. To secure the meeting room at no cost, 10 room reservations were guaranteed. So please be sure to mention ESA when booking. Convention information, registration forms and tickets for the King and Queen of Mardi Gras have been placed in the chapter folders. Full report is on file.

ESA Foundation – Lynn Keffer (Sigma Chi):

Lynn’s goal this year is to have more people join the foundation. There is a program called “Flip out for the Foundation”. If you are a current Foundation member and sponsor a new member, your name will be placed in a drawing to win a Lifetime Active membership. Remember, you don’t need to be a “sister” to be a part of the Foundation. As of May 31, 2011, total assets of the ESA Foundation are in excess of \$3 million dollars. During the past 2 years, the Foundation has offered a 2 for 1 promotion, which has garnered 27 new members nationally. The active membership for voting purposes is 1615 members. There are 12 new Life Active members, including 1 from Virginia (our own Beth Sherron), totaling 218 at the end of the fiscal year. Scholarship information is available on the website. Remember there is a new website address: <http://www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org>. Lynn presented Beth Sherron with the Crystal Plateau of Achievement and Life Active Membership award from the Foundation.

Historian – Elaine Prillaman (Delta Kappa):

History is a very important part of our lives. Ginger would like a record of all the activities you participated in during the year. Please keep notes and compile them at the end of the year. Rules and points are on the VSC website. If you need assistance, please let her know. Elaine is also about to make history; she is participating in her first ever walk – the “St. Jude Give thanks. Walk.” on November 19th. She requested your support and sponsorship. Full report is on file.

News Bulletin - Sandy Reed (PPA, Beta Tau):

There was great participation of the Elected and Appointed officers as well as the chapters in the Fall issue of the Lamplighter. Sandy hopes that increased participation continues with the next issue of the Lamplighter. When sending Sandy articles, she encourages you to include pictures if possible. Please provide event details and identify those in the photo. The deadline for the Winter issue is January 15th. Sandy will send out a deadline reminder a few weeks in advance. Full report is on file. President Ginger recognized Sandy for her hard work.

Publicity – Neda Duncan (Delta Rho):

Neda has placed the Sandy Reed Publicity Award Entry form along with some tips in the chapter folders. Your goal should be to have the public know and recognize the name of your chapter and ESA, using Who-What-When-Where. Don't wait until the end of our chapter year to let her know what you have had publicized. Full report is on file.

Scrapbook Keeper – Beverly Scott (PPA, Zeta Nu):

Beverly requested that each chapter complete 2 scrapbook pages. She has provided blank scrapbook pages as well as sheet protectors for each chapter. Please have a chapter representative pick up your chapter supplies before leaving today. You may also select your own paper design – just be sure it is a 12x12. Please be sure to document your chapter name, your theme and your chapter location on the pages. In addition, please provide event details and identify those in each photo. Beverly would like the completed pages by the Spring Meeting, but will also accept them at convention. Please contact Beverly for assistance. Full report is on file.

SERC Director – Margaret P-Nut Schools (PPA, Beta Sigma):

P-Nut has 3 projects to discuss today. 1. Information regarding a SERC Finance fundraiser at the SERC Conference has been placed in your chapter folders. Tickets for the Jewelry raffle were not provided in the chapter folder, but should you want to purchase a ticket, please contact her for a ticket number. Blank tickets were emailed to the chapter presidents in September. Any numbered tickets sold along with the money should be given to Gaynell Krista, so they can be taken to SERC. 2. SERC is requesting donations for the "Imagination Library". It is a program started in 1996 by Dolly Parton to furnish books to underprivileged children. They are asking each state participating to bring a minimum of 1 used books for every 4 members on the state roster. According to our roster, that equals about 40-41 books for the VSC. They accept all types of books. The books will be sold at a reduced price and profits will be donated to the "Imagination Library". Lynne Rightmyer and Marie LaDuke will take the books left over from the PPA Bazaar to SERC to donate. 3. As chapters, please remember that we do not pay dues to SERC. To raise money, the VSC SERC project will be a drawing at the Spring VSC Meeting for a \$100 Visa/MasterCard gift card. All money raised (after the card is paid for) will be the VSC's donation to SERC. Full report is on file.

Social Director – Shelby Hodges (PPA, Beta Delta):

Shelby has received reports from 8 chapters on time. It is not too late to send in your social reports for the rest of the year. Please take pictures and send her any other materials you collect. She will also accept reports by email. Shelby is having fun reading all about your chapter events. She gave a "shout out" to Zeta Nu's Pedi-Mani Party. The report was chock full of tips, photos and fun. Full report is on file.

State Project – Diane McLane (Theta Mu):

Being State Project director is filled with many thrills. One of which last year was writing a check to the ESA Foundation to be split between ASK and Special Love for \$4160! Now the bank account is almost empty again and ready for more donations. She hopes you have planned projects this year to support our State Projects. Did you know that ASK has a new name? They are now ASK Childhood Cancer Foundation. And they have a new fundraiser going on called "Reach for the Peak" being held in September and October at Peak Experiences Indoor Rock Climbing Center in Richmond. Judy Williams' son works at Peak Experience and is involved with the event – so there is another ESA connection!! Go to www.askweb.org for more information. Special Love also has some scheduled events – please check out their website www.speciallove.org. The state project form has been placed in the chapter folders. A copy has also been placed on the website. Contact Diane with any questions. Full report is on file.

Workshop Coordinator – Millie Simmons (Alpha Chi):

Gaynell has already given you Millie's new email address. Please send her your 2012 Convention workshop brochures as soon as you can (after the beginning of the new year). Her chapter is helping to host next years' convention and she is going to be very busy, so your prompt attention is appreciated. If you can give her your workshop information by the Spring meeting, it would be much appreciated!

Hope for Heroes – Lisa Hale (Beta Delta):

Ginger reported that Lisa was unable to join us today. Gaynell presented Lisa's Hope for Hero's program at Leadership yesterday. Hope for Heroes week falls the week of Veteran's Day each year. Chapters are encouraged to hold a special program or event during the week to support military members, their families and/or veterans. Some ideas are to write letters, send care packages, volunteer at your local VA Hospital and/or have a military member speak to your chapter. Please notify Lisa about any Hope for Heroes events you host. She would love to get a brief write up of your event along with photos. In your chapter folders is an information sheet with details regarding Lisa's contact information as well as a current "Wish List" for care packages along with mailing addresses. Additional information can be found on the ESA website. Full report is on file.

Task Force – Ginger Yopp (Beta Delta):

Ginger presented the "Spirit of ESA" workshop at Leadership. In a few weeks, she will assign your Task Force mentor. She will also share all the information she collected during the workshop. Please be sure to share the information with your chapter members. We really need to build our membership.

Recess was called at 11:33 AM

*****BREAK*****

Call to Order:

Meeting was called back to order by President Ginger Yopp at 11:50 AM.

Spirit of ESA:

Ginger asked members to stand up and share an ESA memento that brings alive their "Spirit of ESA". Ginger then reminded everyone that the "Spirit of ESA" is the membership. Be excited. Invite your friends & neighbors to your events. They may be really interested in joining ESA and becoming a part of the "Spirit of ESA" but they don't want to invite themselves. It all starts with an invitation.

Unfinished Business:

- Sandy Reed reported we had 47 registered members for Leadership, but there was one cancellation. She hopes everyone enjoyed the speaker Dr. Christopher Lillis. Doris and Sandy hope you enjoyed your Kukui nut necklaces (from Hawaii). They were inspired by Jane – she saw them made on her Hawaiian cruise last year. They fit with her theme of "ESA Surfing the Oceans of Opportunities and Fun".
- Theresa Morris thanked everyone for their support of the PPA Bazaar. Between purchases and donations, over \$700 was raised.
- Ginger reported that Judy Williams raised \$204.15 in donations for the disaster fund today.
- Carol Campbell held a drawing for personalized ESA note cards. Raffle tickets were handed out to members at Leadership yesterday and again at registration for today's council meeting.
- Special Presentation – Ginger presented Judy Williams with the awards won by the VSC during IC Convention: 3rd Place ESA Foundation Scholarship Award (donating most money), 3rd Place ESA Foundation State Award (donating most money), & 3rd Place ESA Foundation Fantasy Event Award (donating most money).
- Theresa Morris presented Judy Williams with her scrapbook, created by Scrapbook Chair Judi Brigg. Judi was unable to attend the Fall Council Meeting. She thanked all the VSC sisters for submitting pages, her Beta Sigma sisters for all their help, and to Theresa for her invaluable assistance. Judy Williams thanked everyone for participating in this new approach to the scrapbook.

- Ginger presented the members of Beta Kappa (Flora Burns accepted) with the 1st place ESA Foundation Chapter Award (donating most money), which she received at IC Convention.
- Ginger presented Beta Sigma with her “Stand Up and Say Yes, we are ESA” award. Details regarding this event were published in the Fall 2011 Issue of the Lamplighter. Beta Sigma hosted their first social event of the year by attending a Flying Squirrels game at the Diamond. They had 30 attendees, they wore ESA shirts, got their chapter name printed on every event ticket and even saw their chapter name in lights after the fourth inning. They really stood up and said YES – We are ESA. Great job ladies!!

New Business:

- Voting directions for VSC delegates at SERC Convention - Ginger announced that the voting for the candidates for SERC office be left to the discretion of the VSC delegates in attendance. Coming from the Executive Board, no second is required. Ginger then asked for any questions from the floor. Sandy Reed inquired as to who was running for office. President – Ennis Karns, First Vice President – Tammy Akines, Second Vice President – Robin Bussey (running unopposed), & Recording Secretary – Anita Hilburn. Sharon Thompson is also running for an office. Jane Shamblin was going to run for Parliamentarian, so Sandy inquired if anyone took her place? Ginger said no, there were multiple candidates for the position, so a replacement was not needed. With there being no further questions, Ginger brought the vote to the floor. The motion was carried.
- Voting directions for changes to the SERC Bylaws and/or Standing Rules at SERC Convention: Ginger announced that the voting for changes to the SERC Bylaws and/or Standing Rules at SERC Convention be left to the discretion of the VSC delegates in attendance. Coming from the Executive Board, no second is required. Ginger brought the vote to the floor. The motion was carried.

Announcements/Dates to Remember:

- Oct 28-29: SERC Conference – North Charleston, SC
- March 24, 2012: VSC Spring Meeting – Waynesboro, VA
- May 25-27, 2012: VSC Convention – Waynesboro, VA
- Please remember to pick up your chapter folders at the close of the meeting. Please sign for your folder.
- If you know a chapter is not here and you live close by, please take their chapter folder as well. Please sign for their folder.
- If you have not already provided your Chapter Yearbook to Gaynell, please do so.
- The Chinese Auction will be held immediately following this meeting.

Adjournment/Closing Ritual:

Ginger adjourned the meeting at 12:18pm. She then led the membership in the new closing ritual – as provided by IC.

Finance:

Sue Danielson reported (after the close of the meeting) that \$261 was raised by the Chinese Auction today. Alpha Chi won “The Simple Pleasures of Fall” contest.

Respectfully submitted,
 Suzanne Budd
 VSC Recording Secretary

Submitted for approval on 10/18/11 to the Minutes Approval Committee:
 Sheen Childress – approved as corrected 10/20/11
 Flora Burns – approved as corrected 10/21/11