

**Virginia State Council  
Epsilon Sigma Alpha, International  
General Board Meeting  
October 7, 2012**

**Call to Order:**

The Fall meeting of the Virginia State Council of Epsilon Sigma Alpha International was held on Sunday, October 7, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Manassas Battlefield, Manassas, VA. President Beth Sherron called the meeting to order at 10:05am. She noted that all voting delegates should have been issued colored index cards upon registration.

President Beth asked that all members stand and join her in our **Alternate Opening Ritual**.

**Chaplain's Message: Beverley Wright**

Beverley read "My Body" and then gave a Prayer of Thanksgiving. President Beth thanked Beverly, for doing an incredible job as Chaplain.

**Welcome to Manassas: Sheen Childress**

Sheen welcomed everyone to Old Town Manassas.

**No Written Report**

**Recognitions:**

President Beth introduced the head table who will be known as the "Blocks of Friends, Kristine Williamson, Treasurer, Suzanne Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Carol Campbell, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Susan Caldwell, Parliamentarian, Kathy Gibbons, Recording Secretary, "- Sue Danielson, Corresponding Secretary. President Beth thanked everyone for everyone's willingness to serve the state council this year and into the future.

This year the VSC Past Presidents are known as the "Scrappy Ladies." Beth asked the PPA's to raise their hands for recognition. We enjoyed the birds skit. Thank you for continuing to being very active in our state. We need you to continue as our mentors and workers.

President Beth asked if any members attending their first state Council Meeting and a representative from their chapter please stand and introduce their new member. None were in attendance.

President Beth asked the 2012 – 2013 Chapter Presidents to come forward. Beth gave a Celebrate ESA button for each president to wear throughout the year to help increase membership. Thank, you for being a very important part of ESA. Thank you also for keeping the rest of the membership informed. Our goal is to increase ESA membership so we can continue with this wonderful organization.

**CREDENTIALS REPORT - Jane Harris, Betty Cason, Jackie Nash**

**Attendance:**

Chapters on Roll	19
Chapter's Present	17
VSC Officers Present	7
Members Present	52
DESAs Present	0

**Number of Votes Present:**

VSC Executive Board/Officer Votes:	7
# Chapter Delegate Votes:	19
# Proxy Votes:	<u>0</u>
<b>Total Votes:</b>	<b>26</b>

MALs Present	1
Guests Present	<u>0</u>
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b>60</b>

**Quorum:**

According to the Virginia State Council Bylaws, a quorum shall consist of representatives from five (5) Virginia chapters and one (1) Officer. There being a quorum present, all business voted upon shall constitute effective action.

**Rules of the Meeting:**

The rules of the meeting are a part of our Standing Rules and do not need to be read at each meeting.

**Approval of the Summer Council meeting Minutes:**

The Minutes Approval Committee was Betty Allen and Bev Scott. Bev reported that the Minutes of the June 23, 2012, VSC Council Meeting were approved as published. The approved minutes were distributed via email. The committee was dismissed.

**Correspondence - Sue Danielson**

Sue indicated she had multiple absences received via email.

**Financial Report of 2012-2013 - Kristine Williamson, Treasurer**

Kristine presented the financial report. The treasurer's report shows a balance forwarded (as of 06/23/2012) was \$2,773.52. Disbursements three checks total \$61.70 were written for 2011 – 2012 expenses leaving ending balance \$2,711.82. Income ½ proceeds from 2012 VA State Convention was \$143.29. Chinese Action proceeds from summer meeting were \$248.00. Dues from eight (8) chapters \$810.00. Total income \$1,201.29. Disbursements totaling \$1,794.02. VSAC checking account balance on hand as of 10/05/2012 is \$2,119.09. VSC Savings Account balance as of 09/30/2012 \$882.44.

**2011-2012 Audit Committee Report - Peggy Smith**

The Audit committee consisted of Peggy Smith and Barbara Smith. The audit has been completed for all three (3) sets of books for 2011-2012. VSC Treasury, VSC Convention and VSC State Projects. All records were found to be in proper order and free of material errors and/or omissions. The committee was dismissed.

**Minute Approval Committee –Beth Sherron**

The appointed Committee to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2012 meeting is Sue Foy and Kathy Liske.

**REPORTS FROM MY BLOCK OF FRIENDS:****1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Carol Campbell**

Thank you, Sheen for your work on this year's Leadership. It has been a great autumn escape for us all.

I hope you enjoyed the Slide Show yesterday informing you of the upcoming events and giving you a head's up on the fun and exciting time I have planned for us for the 2013 Summer Council at Natural Bridge. If you were not here yesterday, there will be flyers and information in your chapter's folders. So get with your members and make your reservations early. The cabins go fast, so make your reservations ASAP!

There is still plenty of room for you to serve our state on the 2013-14 Appointed Committees and on the Executive Board. I have placed the appropriate forms for these positions in the Chapter Folders. Please give me your support by deciding early on the position you desire. By doing so, I will be able to focus on my Committee Work for IC Convention.

Remember Virginia is going to be in the SPOTLIGHT in so "STEP UP, STEP OUT AND STEP FORWARD" for ESA-VA.

I have extra forms with me today that you can complete. I will be patiently awaiting your response. There is a job for everyone!

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Suzanne Smith**

I hope you had as wonderful a time as I did at the leadership conference yesterday. Let us all give Sheen Childress a round of applause for all her hard work. We appreciate all your time and efforts Sheen!

Sheen said she is the reason I am here today. 15 years ago, Sheen chartered Delta Sigma and asked me to join. I had to give it some thought. What is ESA, what do they do and how would I fit in? I grew up with parents that enjoyed volunteering and shared their enthusiasm with me. I remember when I was young, I was so inspired by the annual Muscular Dystrophy Telethon on TV, and I got a coffee can and went door to door in my neighborhood collecting money to send to Jerry and the kids. I was so proud of the donations I collected that day. I continued to

volunteer throughout the years, but never in an organized fashion. Therefore, ultimately, the decision was easy – I wanted to be a part of this thing called ESA.

We give so much of ourselves to ESA and all the many philanthropic projects we support, but we also get a lot in return. In fact, in the past 15 years, ESA has brought new friends into my life; taught me skills I may never have learned anywhere else, afforded me new opportunities and really broadened my horizons. I feel I have received much more than I have given. ESA isn't something we do; it's something we are! In addition, to keep ESA alive, we need to share our stories with others and get them excited about joining this great organization.

For those of you that love technology, one new tool ESA has provided to help you get the conversation started is a Quick Reference (or QR) code. I am sure you have seen one of these before at a store or in a magazine (hold up QR code graphic & Walgreen's sale ad). QRs are often a fun & easy way to engage potential members. Anyone with a smart phone can scan the code (which contains a website address) and taken to a short YouTube video about ESA. It is a simple way to share the word of ESA without even talking. I have enclosed more information about this in your chapter folders. Be sure to add the QR code to all your recruitment materials.

October is the official membership recruitment month in ESA. In addition, in typical ESA fashion, headquarters has come up with a great idea to sweeten up your rush events this month – let us all celebrate CHOCTOBER! Why not plan a chocolate-theme ESA recruitment party and invite all your friends? Friendship and chocolate, what could be a more perfect pairing. If your chapter isn't able to host a rush event this month, consider creating an ESA calling card to share with friends and prospective members, such as the one attached to the sweet treats I put at each table.

In honor of Choctober, I want to play a game. I will give you a slogan and you give me the associated candy name.

“Melts in your mouth, not in your hand” – M&Ms

“Taste the rainbow” – Skittles

“Don't let hunger happen to you” – Snickers

“Sometimes you feel like a nut. Sometimes you don't” – Mounds & Almond Joy

“Crispety, crunchety, peanut-buttery....” – Butterfinger

“Double your pleasure, double your fun” – Doublemint Gum

“Gimme a break” – Kit Kat

“Get the sensation” – York Peppermint Patty

“The Freshmaker” – Mentos

I want to recognize and thank Theresa Morris for all the time, effort and hard work she put into creating the VSC website! I want to thank Gil Hodges for taking over as our new Web Master. He has updated the site and it looks amazing! Please be sure to visit the site. The 2013 Rushing Award form is there along with most if not all other award forms, past issues of the Lamplighter, the VSC Bylaws and so much more! In case you forgot, the website address is: <http://www.esa-virginia.com>

Here are the membership incentives available now. There are quite a few more ideas “in the works” for upcoming membership campaigns.

1. At the 2013 IC Convention, IC President Suzy Winters will be hosting a reception for all ESA members in attendance that sponsored a member during the 2012-2013 year. Remember that IC Convention is in VA in 2013!
2. Should you sponsor a new member, you will also receive a 1-year membership in the ESA Ambassador Club and be eligible to earn FREE DUES! Here are details:

### **ESA's Ambassador Club**

Earn credit toward the Ambassador Club every time you pledge a new member. Epsilon Sigma Alpha's elite Ambassador Club consists of those members who excel in pledging new members (Legacy, DESA, Elan and Men of ESA pledges do not qualify) during a single membership campaign year. ESA Ambassadors are recognized for having spread the “good will” and high ideals of our organization through membership growth.

**1<sup>st</sup> Step Award** – Having sponsored four new members during the current campaign year (June 1 – May 31), these ESA members/sponsors will receive one year dues free and will be awarded a certificate in recognition of their efforts as an ESA Ambassador.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Step Award** - Having sponsored eight new members during the current campaign year (June 1 – May 31), these ESA members/sponsors will receive two years' dues free and will be awarded an Ambassador lapel pin.

**Final Step Award** – Having sponsored 10 new members during the current campaign year (June 1 – May 31), these ESA members/sponsors will receive a Life Active Membership in ESA and will be awarded a Life Active dangle.

#### **PAGES NEEDED for the 2013 IC CONVENTION**

Suzanne announced she needed **PAGES** for the 2013 IC Convention in Norfolk, VA scheduled July 15-20, 2013. She is hoping to get a group large enough of ESA members (DESA's and MESA's) that each volunteer will “work” part of the convention. **PAGES** will be needed (possibly Sunday) all week Monday - Saturday. The bulk of **PAGES** will be needed Thursday - Saturday.

#### **Duties:**

**PAGES** simply stated are “runners”. **PAGES** will be asked to secure the doors before the Opening Ceremonies and Installation of Officers. They will be asked to secure the doors prior to events so that the rooms can be checked before delegates enter. They will be asked to help to direct people proper seating at assemblies and events. They may be asked to help at meal functions with the collection of tickets, seating, etc. During General Assemblies, **PAGES** will be stationed near the head table, near the center of the room and near the rear of the room, if anyone needs to get a message delivered, they will be easily accessible. One **PAGE** should be stationed on each side of the head table, out front, where the officers can view them, so they can watch for a high sign from the head table.

#### **Other Duties:**

- Putting up signs and posters
- Helping set up and removal flags daily
- Assist with placards at meetings and meal functions
- Assist with any seating needs
- Assist with table signs
- Distribute material at doors
- Distribute workshop materials
- Attend to ballot boxes prior to voting, during voting. Etc.

All **PAGES** should be reminded they will be constantly on the move and should be aware of the physical activity involved.

#### **Recording Secretary - Kathy Gibbons**

The minutes were submitted to the Minutes Approval Committee. The minutes were approved as published and distributed. Kristine Williamson asked for one correction she graduated in a class of 35, which four (4) was cousins. The minutes were approved as corrected. Kathy thanked President Beth for distributing the minutes via email on her behalf. Reminder if you have a verbal report please submit a written copy via email ASAP.

#### **Corresponding Secretary - Sue Danielson**

Sue thanked President Beth for her patience and computer skills. Without her help, your yearbook would have been a “No Show.” Also, for all those that I emailed and called, a “BIG THANK YOU!”

Please let Beth or I know of any corrections so they can go into the next newsletter.

If all is right with the world, the majority of the CD's were distributed yesterday at Leadership and this morning.

Sue is collecting chapter yearbooks for the contests. Please submit yours for competition.

I just need to mention that my email address has to be spelled correctly or it will not forward like any other email address. So just double check the spelling before you hit send and life will be good!

#### **Treasurer - Kristine Williamson**

No questions from the membership were brought forward, so the report will be filed for audit. **NOTE:** The full financial report has been filed and is part of the VSC permanent records.

**Parliamentarian - Susan Caldwell**

Thanks go to Gil Hodges for posting the updated VSC Bylaws, Standing Rules and Awards Rules on the VSC Website.

I have sent a proposed by-law change to Gil for posting on the website and to Sandy Reed for inclusion in the next Lamplighter. Additionally, I have placed a copy in each chapter folder. I will present the change at the spring VSC meeting and we will vote at the VSC meeting in May.

Please mail or email me any other proposed changes.

**ARTICLE XII**  
**APPOINTED OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Section 1**

VSC PPA's are requesting Susan Caldwell, Parliamentarian to propose the bylaw change:

**Proposal: ADD** - The Awards Chair shall provide a written report listing award winner's to be recorded in the convention minutes.

**Reason for Proposal:** Preserving VSC history and provide a record who received the trophy(s) in the event they are not returned.

**Section 2**

**Currently reads:**

k. The news Bulletin Editor shall edit the VSC publication, the *Lamplighter*, three (3) times annually in Fall, Winter, and Spring. S/He shall determine the deadline for submission of materials for each issue. Complimentary copies of the *Lamplighter* shall be furnished to the VSC President, the SERC President, the IC President, the IC Chairman of News Bulletins, and ESA Headquarters.

**Requested Change:**

k. The News Bulletin Editor shall edit the VSC publication, the *Lamplighter*, three (3) times annually in Fall, Winter, and Spring. S/He shall determine the deadline for submission of materials for each issue. **The *Lamplighter* shall be electronically distributed to each of the VA Chapter Presidents and the Executive Board, VSC General Board.** After discussion the PPA will be added to the distribution. **Electronic copies will also be emailed** to the SERC President, the IC President, the IC Chairman of News Bulletins, and ESA Headquarters.

Change is requested in order to clarify how the *Lamplighter* is distributed since subscriptions are no longer required and it has been e-mailed the last couple of years. The word "complimentary" is no longer valid since the *Lamplighter* is not purchased.

**Jr. Past President - Ginger Hodges by Sue Danielson**

I am sorry I am unable to be with you today and will miss seeing all of my VA Sisters. I know you will have a great meeting under Beth's most capable leadership.

Although I am not in attendance at this meeting, it does not lessen our responsibility to the ESA Disaster Fund. It seems as if every time we have turned on the television or picked up a newspaper recently, all we have seen are reports of disaster – fires, hurricanes, damaging storms and floods. It reminds me of when I was a child and playing in the sand on the beach. You spend hours building a big sandcastle with lots of windows and doors – then suddenly here comes the BIG wave and all your hard work and dreams are washed away.

Let's not let that happen to our ESA sisters. Plan a separate project for the Disaster Fund and send your checks to me. Today I would like to have my sand bucket passed around again to accept your donations. Please send my sand bucket back to me filled with lots of money by my mom (Shelby Hodges). I kinda trust her.

My other duty as your Jr. Past President is to solicit bids for State Conventions. Although I have heard a rumor we had a bid for 2014 VSC Convention, I need official "stuff" so will be watching my mail box.

Love to you all and hope to see you in Richmond in the spring. Have a wonderful fall season, Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday.

**REPORT OF THE APPOINTED OFFICERS – The Piece Makers  
Association of the Arts - Millie Simmons**

**No Report**

**Awards Director - Sue Foy**

I would like to take this time to extend my congratulations and gratitude to all the hardworking Virginia ESA gals.

Since the May State Convention until today, let's do this. Please stand if you have

- If you have worked on a St. Jude's, Easter Seals project or State Project or worked on a Philanthropic Project by either attending or planning a project.
- If you planned or attended an Educational, Social, Ways and Means project, wrote an article for publicity, collected, made, or planning a project.
- If you brought someone new to an ESA event, wore your ESA logo to an event other than sorority function. Told someone other than a member about ESA.
- If you attended the last State Convention, IC Convention, participated in an installation of officers, attended a Founder's Day observation or Prayer Breakfast.

My questions to you did you report all this information to the proper person in your chapter so that she could send it on to the State Committee Chairman?

Are you keeping track of how many hours and how much money you, your chapter, your state donates to the various project we support?

The number of hours and money that we collect when it is all tallied is staggering in its entirety.

In my chapter, we always say, "we don't care about getting an award for the time and money we give, we just like to help others because we are caring people." What we don't realize is:

**Firstly**, there is a downside to not counting your hours and money and reporting it through the VSC and then on to headquarters. ESA as an organization needs to justify our 501C status as a philanthropic organization. The hours and monies we count go toward this designation. It is a Federal Tax thing.

**Secondly**, everyone likes to be praised for a job well done. All we ask, as an organization, in my opinion, is to do your best with the time and talent you have been given. We all have different talents and ESA needs whatever talent you can share with us. We all have different time constraints and the time you have devoted to caring for others, is important only to you. We don't require or penalize you for not doing as much as the next person.

**Thirdly**, awards ceremonies are celebrations. Sharing accomplishments with others is so much fun. It's our way of saying thank you for a job well done.

Please, please take a few minutes each month to report your hours and monies. That may seem like a minor thing to do, it really is a very important thing for our organization to stay alive and give credit where credit is due.

Please be aware that IC has a new Distinguished Achievement Award. There is information regarding this award in the chapter folders.

It is no longer for women, but is for a "person." It has been established to recognize a very special person in each community – a person who has unselfishly given of themselves to a remarkable degree in some area of service which benefits others...a person exemplifies in their daily life the wholesome and inspiring qualities of love, faith and courage. It is the privilege of ESA International to honor them with the only award given by ESA to people outside of ESA.

Please go on the ESA website for more information regarding this award. I think it will be a great way to recognize people in the community and garner some extra publicity for ESA.

**2013 VSC Convention - Co-Chair Pam Cook**

The Richmond Area Chapters are looking forward to hosting everyone on May 11-12, 2013 at Embassy Suites, Emerywood Parkway. Room rate \$119 King and \$129 Queen (2 beds). I have put in all the chapter folders the Convention Registration Form. The Registration Fee is \$85 for Members and \$65 for nonmembers.

In the next few months, we will be sending out information for ads in the Convention Brochure as well as information for the Bunco Fundraiser that we are planning to coincide with the Spring Meeting in March. So come and take a Walk in the Park with ESA in May 2013.

**Easter Seals - Anna Black**

**No Report**

**Educational Director - Sue Stone**

Using the theme, "A Patchwork of LOVE and LAUGHTER" works just fine for some people. However, the patchwork square of the educational program is UNLOVED AND WAILING.

There are thousands of squares for Beth's quilt out there...all shapes, different sizes, and colors of the rainbow. These pieces are scattered from the Tidewater area up to the Northern Virginia area, did I skip Richmond (is Richmond considered Tidewater area?) then from Winchester down the Shenandoah Valley and on to Roanoke.

Fortunately, a southwesterly wind has blown five quilt pieces my way. This is the beginning of a beautiful educational quilt that will have scenes such as "Watering Our Roots", "A Sea of Dreams", "Prince William Historical Sites", "Navigating a Library" and "Beauty and You". Many more reports are needed to reverse this feeling of UNLOVED AND WAILING to LOVE AND LAUGHTER.

Please review the guidelines placed in your chapter folder at the State Summer Meeting. These guidelines are for the VSC Educational Award, monthly Educational Report Form, Gold Link Award, and State Distinguished Athenian Service Award. I put an additional Report Form in the chapter packet this morning.

**Finance Chair - Susie Garland**

Sisters, remember the best entry in today's "Making a Patchwork of Autumn Memories" will receive \$20 that will be donated to the Disaster Fund, in your chapter's name.

Congratulations to Alpha Delta, Richmond, who won the Summer Council's Chinese Auction.

A profit of \$228.00 was realized for VSC.

Flora Burns basket has a special gift a cookbook signed by the author, her granddaughter.

Please come by and purchase your tickets for these lovely items to support our fundraiser for VSC.

**Foundation Director - Diane McLane**

I want to thank Beth for trusting me with this assignment. I'm already learning and looking forward to doing more.

Also, thanks to Flora for picking up my package at IC Convention. I'm looking forward to reading through the materials.

This year, the scholarship applications will be done online. The website is up and ready if you'd like to take a look, and if you have someone, who wants to apply for a scholarship, direct them that way. Go to [www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org](http://www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org) and click on the "Scholarships and Grants" bar and follow the directions.

On another note: Please be sure to renew your memberships in ESAF before March 1<sup>st</sup> for 2013. If paid after March 1<sup>st</sup> it will go towards 2014. If you'd like to give me the check (made out to ESA Foundation), I'll be glad to mail them. I can also tell you if are already paid up for 2013. Please, use the Turnaround funds whenever you can.

The ESA Foundation gratefully acknowledges, with special recognition, ALL FOUNDATION MEMBERS (individuals, chapter, districts, councils, and auxiliaries) who achieve a special plateau of financial support. All gifts/donations to the ESA Foundation (including membership fees and annual dues) are counted toward the Plateau of Achievement from the time of initial membership on through the years.

I am pleased to recognize two Virginia members for reaching a Plateau.

- **Shelby Hodges, Beta Delta has reached the Bronze Plateau: \$250.00 - \$499.00**
- **Flora Burns, Beta Kappa has reached the Peridot Plateau: \$25,000.00 - \$49,999.00**

Congratulations and thank you!

**Historian - Shelby Hodges**

Shelby continued with her skit "Should have written it down." Shelby emphasized the importance of documenting VSC history. Over half of the year is past, please do not wait until the last minute. Don't come up short in the spring at convention, even if you don't want to compete for an award. President Beth still wants you to write it down.

**Hope for Heroes Coordinator - Lisa Hale**

**No Report**

**Leadership Conference - Sheen Childress**

**No written report**

Sheen thanked the 58 members for attending leadership.

**News Bulletin Editor - Sandy Reed**

I'd like to thank everyone for their Lamplighter articles and pictures. Unfortunately, due to space it is not always possible to put in flyers, etc. that you attach to your article.

I really appreciated Flora's article and am happy to see her here today instead of attending "Hidden Bush."

The deadline for the Winter Issue is January 15<sup>th</sup>. Please send an article, since our Virginia ESA sisters would like to read your news. I will be sending a reminder in January right after the holidays.

**Philanthropic Director - Flora Burns**

**No Report**

**Publicity Director - Ramona Fulwider**

I asked the chapters to design a group brochure. We had five chapters who submitted brochures. The brochures were given to a group of people to analyze. Their comments will be returned to the individual chapters.

\*Tri-fold likes and suggestions

\*Use of color

\*Photos good, big enough to see people and look FUN

\*Include contact info and meeting location

\*Mini application for membership or more information

\*Bullet point for projects, fundraisers, socials

\*Logo for ESA International included

\*Charter year

\*Local chapter info

\*Mission statement

\*Easy to read

\*Make them want to engage in conversation

\*Daffodil use

\*Blue and yellow use

\*Web info

Keep it interesting and make it FUN! Use wherever you go. Keep it close to you to give out whenever someone is interested, especially at projects. Get the parents of kids you help involved.

Light on text, enough to get them interested and you can get their info to get back with them. The following chapters submitted brochures: Alpha Chi (first chapter submission), Beta Tau, Beta Sigma, Alpha Omega, and Beta Delta.

All are good and very different. Will pass around so you can see them all, but comments from reviewers are only for the chapters to see. Above are the things they liked overall. They were women involved in another charitable group who want to do a brochure and used this as a tool for ideas and evaluated on that basis.

**Scrapbook Keeper - Theresa Morris**

**No Report**



**SERC Director - Nancy Reece**

Again, it is time to give thought to raising some money for SERC. As you know, this Council only hopes for our generosity to help in the operations to keep us in touch with our Southeastern Sisters.

Therefore, I am counting on all of you to participate in a raffle as our project. We have a lovely diamond and gold necklace and earring set donated, so all monies will go to SERC.

You will find this report, along with raffle tickets and a picture in your chapter folder. Please read this to your chapter and urge their participation. I will appreciate your help and SERC Sisters will love you.

This will be another patch for President Beth to add to her remembrance quilt.

If you need more tickets, you may copy on your machine (black and white is fine) or I will have more at the Spring meeting.

**Social Director - Gaynell Krista by Sue Danielson**

I really hated that I missed the Summer Council meeting, but unfortunately was unable to attend. From all that I hear, it was a great meeting and you all had an ice cream social. I hate to miss a chance for ice cream! I am sorry that I am not with all of you today. I can tell you one thing – ESA members love their socials, and they love to eat at them! We all know that you cannot have any kind of social without eating – that is how socials got started in the first place. Years ago, church socials were held and it usually involved food and music – and it continues today.

Reminder, the contest period for the Social Award is from May 1 through April 30 every year. To be eligible for competition, reports for May through August must be postmarked on or before September 10. Reports for September through March must be postmarked on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month following the month in which the social event was held. The April report must be postmarked on or before May 1. Any report mailed late or received by email will not be counted towards the competition. This information is found in the Virginia State Council Contests and Awards – Special Rules, where you will also find the information regarding the point system that is used for judging

One big “secret” to being eligible for entry in the competition is simple – submitting your social events. Your social events will not be counted in two ways – not submitting them and submitting them late. Your chapter could have a chance of winning or at least possibly coming in 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place at Convention.

This is a list of chapters from whom I received summer reports that are eligible: (1) Alpha Chi, (2) Alpha Omega, (3) Beta Kappa, (4) Beta Sigma, (5) Beta Tau, (6) Delta Kappa, (7) Delta Rho, (8) Theta Mu, (9) Zeta Nu. I have received two reports so far for the October 10 postmark deadline: (1) Beta Kappa and (2) Beta Sigma.

I submitted an article to the Fall *Lamplighter*, and the Social Report Form placed at the end. Social Report Forms are placed in all of the chapter folders. Keep having those socials – and make sure I hear about them! Social Report forms were place in chapter folders.

**St. Jude Coordinator - Brenda Orebaugh**

I would like to thank all of you for raising over \$690,000.00 last year for St. Jude Children’s Hospital. GREAT job! As Beth reported when she returned from IC a total of \$11,455,895.00 was raised overall.

To date this year you have raised \$30,450.00 since July 1 so we are off to a good start. Keep up the good work.

As always, if I can be of assistance to you with any of your projects please let me know.

**Webmaster - Gil Hodges – [www.esa-virginia.com](http://www.esa-virginia.com)**

Gil reported the following task completions:

- Created a new contact email for webmaster: [VAESAwebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:VAESAwebmaster@gmail.com) so that I can keep emails separated

- Changed the “if you’d like more info about ESA” from generating an email to the webmaster to generating an email to the specific chapter president that the visitor requests.
- Thanks to all who sent new forms! If you are responsible for a form and have not sent one to me yet, please check the website and see if your form is current. If not, please send me new form.
- Sending forms in WORD format will allow me to post them as an editable PDF form so that you can simply fill out the form online and email it, rather than printing it and mailing it in.
- In an effort to make the website a “go to” resource for members:
- Added VA and VSC history to site home page
- Updated chapter president information
- Created a page for IC and for State convention – requesting information from all members about what you like to do in Richmond or Norfolk/Tidewater areas so that these pages can be a resource for out of town guest
- New Facebook page for VSC announced. Link to “like” the page is on VSC website. (or search Epsilon Sigma Alpha Virginia on Facebook pages)
- Requested that all info emailed to me be detailed explicitly, because I am unfamiliar with the workings of ESA – please do not assume I know where something goes or what it is for.
- Continue to request pictures and information about chapter social events. I still have only one picture.
- Commented on 2013 Convention Chair report that as they sell business ads, if they would like they can offer business the option of being listed on our site with link.
- Commented on Foundation Director report that I need to link to the scholarship website.
- Commented on Publicity Director report that I can post chapter brochures on-site if they will send them to me.
- Commented on Social Director report that if you would cc: webmaster on social events to Gaynell, I can post that on-site (send pix too)
- Question was raised about a possible website workshop after the Spring meeting- discussion was tabled until later.
- Discussion to have a workshop

**State Project Director - Judy Williams**  
New form, placed in chapter in folders

**Verbal Report**

**Workshop Coordinator - Marie LaDuke**

**No Report**

**IC Convention Committee - Sue Foy, Chair and Marie LaDuke, Co-Chair**

- Sue Foy reported plans for the 2013 IC Convention is coming along nicely.
- The meeting with the IC Site Committee went well. Meeting at the hotel. The officers were happy with the accommodations and the hotel staff.
- Plans for all the activities and food functions are a work in progress. Table decorations have been approved.
- Registration form has been completed and is now on the VA and IC website.
- Volunteers have been recruited for all the committees but we still can use more. We even have 10 members from NC now signed up for our team.
- We will be continuing over the next year to finalize our parts in the Convention and will keep you all updated on further needs and developments.

We want to thank you everyone for stepping up, volunteering, and doing your part to make this a memorable convention for everyone.

**President's Report – Beth Sherron**

President Beth apologized for being sick, but she was doing her best to talk loud enough that everyone could understand her.

She wanted to thank everyone for coming today. We owe Sheen a huge thank you for planning a wonderful Leadership. It was very informative and great fun. Thank you!

It was a great privilege to represent the state as your President at IC Convention this past July. I was so excited when the St. Jude totals was announced the state of Virginia was part of the top 10 states. Thank you so much for this honor.

President Beth hopes that each chapter has plans for their Choctober celebrations. She read an email from Suzie Winter, IC President, that detailed the different types of chocolates and how that describes our personalities. Forrest Gump's famous quote "Life is like a box of chocolates you never know what you are going to get."

She reminded the members about the SERC conference and the tour of St. Jude Hospital. There will be 15 -16 members attending SERC. There will be a meeting during the conference regarding the 2015 IC Convention in Florida.

Gil has done a great job getting the website ready to help communicate to the members of Virginia along with anyone else to look at it. Remember this is our website so be sure to get information to him to add.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. **2015 IC Convention SERC Florida Host** - Vicky Jones and Charlotte Garrett, PICPA will monitor this meeting to resolve concerns. All of the chairs have stepped down and we will start over again. If you are not going to Memphis but have concerns about the 2015 convention, please voice your ideas to Beth to take to this meeting. Virginia still is hosting the "PICPA No Host Luncheon."
2. **Special Picture Project** – Beth, thanked everyone who has sent pictures in for their help with this project. She did not get this finished after being sick for the past two and half weeks. Beth will email it out to the Chapter Presidents and email addresses on file. I am so sorry that I did not complete this but Promise that you will get it very soon.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Candidates for 2012 – 2013 SERC Office**

If there are no objections from the membership, the executive board has approved that we dispense with the reading of the candidates for SERC offices. It is moved that the voting for the candidates for SERC office be left to the discretion of the delegates in attendance. Approved by the executive board, no second is required. Motion is carried.

**2. Standing Rule Change**

If there are no objections from the membership, the executive board has approved that we dispense with the reading of the Standing Rule Change. It is moved that the voting for the Standing Rule change be left to the discretion of the delegates in attendance. Approved by the executive board, no second is required. Motion is carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**November 2-3, 2012** SERC Conference – Memphis, Tennessee

**November 17, 2012** Give Thanks 5K Walk

**March 16, 2013**

Spring Meeting, Richmond (TBA) at 1:00pm  
Bunco Party inviting visitors outside of ESA to attend – monies raised designated for ESA Convention

**May 11-12, 2013**

VSC Convention, Embassy Suites, Richmond, VA

My newsletter will be going out around mid-November after returning from SERC Convention. If you want to submit anything, please have it to me by November 10<sup>th</sup>.

Flora Burns approached by the IC Executive announced BJ Clark was retiring. Sue Cook has made a beautiful quilt using worn IC St. Jude events t-shirts. BJ has now decided not to retire for another year to provide her the opportunity to train a replacement. Since, BJ's first convention was in Norfolk it has been decided that we will go ahead presented with her quilt. A tote bag will be made to transport the quilt made from other St. Jude t-shirts. Sue asked the membership for opinion regarding the border. It was unanimous to have the border in black. The finish quilt will be beautiful! Sue has outdone herself!

The Chinese Auction will be immediately following the close of this meeting.

**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Beverly Wright announced VSC PPA's Bazaar proceeds raised \$923.05
- President Beth announced the VSC PPA's have made a generous donated \$500.00 to IC Convention. It is not a loan and does not need to be repaid.
- Shelby Hodges announced the VSC Disaster Fund proceeds raised \$148.06
- Theresa Morris, Richmond announced is hosting a Bunco Party on January 19, 2013. Members would love to host members sharing the homes to stay overnight (first come, first served)
- Carol Campbell announced she has worn her ESA apron to five events gets good attention
- President Beth announced to place your order your ESA apron that will be worn at IC Convention

**ANNOUNCEMENT/CLOSING RITUAL:**

President Beth adjourned the meeting at 12:15pm with all members standing and joining hands to recited the closing ritual.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Gibbons  
VSC Recording Secretary

Submitted for approval on November 23, 2012 to the Minutes Approval Committee