

**Virginia State Council
Epsilon Sigma Alpha International
General Board Meeting
March 24, 2012**

Call to Order:

The Spring General Board meeting of the Virginia State Council of Epsilon Sigma Alpha International was held on Saturday, March 24, 2012 at the Best Western Inn & Conference Center in Waynesboro, VA. President Ginger Hodges called the meeting to order at 10am. Ginger asked that all stand and join her in our Opening Ritual. After the ritual, Ginger noted that all voting delegates should have been issued colored index cards upon registering.

Chaplain's Message:

Mildred Edwards gave an insightful reading called "9 Words that Women use and what their meanings are". It was funny as well as being rooted in truth. Be aware of the words: fine, 5 minutes, nothing, go ahead, "a loud sigh", that's okay, thanks or thanks a lot, whatever, don't worry about it - I got it. She closed with a prayer that we should all be graced to meet God today.

Welcome:

Debbie Frazier, President of the Blue Ridge District Council, welcomed everyone to Waynesboro.

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; Judy Williams, Jr. Past President; Beth Sherron, First Vice President; Suzanne Smith, Recording Secretary and Gaynell Krista, Corresponding Secretary. The PPA's are our "Navigators", as they help make our sailing smooth. Ginger asked each Past President to stand and share the name of their Parliamentarian (when they served as VSC President).

The following in attendance were also recognized:

Members attending their first VA State Meeting: Debbie Frazier introduced Alpha Chi's new member Linda Brickly and Nancy Barnes introduced Delta Rho's new member Barbara Bell.

Guests in attendance: Ginger introduced her friend Cassie, Brenda Orebaugh introduced her granddaughter, Madison and Doris Hood introduced her sister, Kathy.

Ginger then asked the 2011-2012 Chapter Presidents to stand for recognition.

Ginger also recognized Debbie Frazier as the Blue Ridge District Council President.

Minutes Approval Committee:

P-Nut Schools and Bev Scott.

Credentials Report:

Jane Harris

➔ Attendance

Chapters on Roll:	19
Chapters Present at Meeting:	17

VSC Officers Present:	8
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Members Present:	56
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DESAs Present:	0
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MALs Present:	1
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Guests Present:	<u>3</u>
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Total Present at Meeting:	68	← Includes VSC Officers present
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→ Number of Votes Present
 VSC Executive Board/Officer Votes: 7
 # Chapter Delegate Votes: 26
 Proxy Votes: 0
Total Votes: 33

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 October Council Meeting: Notes of regret for missing the Spring VSC Council Meeting were received from Sharon Shaffer & Diane McLane. Jean Bowman Mulliken sent a Thank You card to the VA ESA Sisters in appreciation of their support and prayers during her treatments. Barbara Midkiff stood up and said "ditto".

Financial Report:

Kathy Gibbons reported that as of today, 5 chapters have not yet paid their second half dues. Reminders of unpaid dues and payment receipts have been placed in the chapter folders. Jane Harris (Credentials Chair) has received a roster of those chapters in good standing with the VSC. Please contact Kathy if you need an expense voucher.

Kathy then presented the financial reports. The first report is amended financial report from October 2, 2011. The original report had used the wrong balance forward amount (from 6/15/11 instead of 6/25/11). In addition, the amended report accounted for Income received and Disbursements given on 10/2/11 (the day of the meeting). For clarification regarding the balance forward amount, here is an excerpt of the minutes from the June 25, 2011 VSC General Board Meeting:

Financial Report/Proposed Budget 2011-2012:

Suzanne Budd presented 2 financial reports. The first report given was the final treasurer's report, which had an end date of 6/15/11 (the date the books were closed). This report shows a balance on hand of \$2310.18. There is a savings account balance of \$881.90. The second report was to account for the VSC Bond renewal fee and the 2011 Convention proceeds. These items are included on the 2011-2012 Proposed Budget and therefore, needed to be reported on separately. This report reflects a balance forwarded to the 2011-2012 Treasurer of **\$2951.82**. The savings account balance was unchanged. No questions from the membership were brought forward, so the reports were filed for audit.

Therefore, the beginning balance on the amended October 2, 2011 Financial Report was updated to reflect the correct amount - \$2951.82. This was a difference of + \$641.64 from the original report. Additional Income of \$322 and additional disbursements of \$96.50 were also reported on the amended report. The resulting change to the balance on hand reported on the original 10/2/11 report was \$867.14 (\$641.64 + \$322 - \$96.50 = \$867.14). The original balance on hand was reported as \$2372.01 but was correctly amended to be a balance on hand as of 10/2/11 of \$3239.15. (\$2372.01 + \$867.14 = \$3239.15).

The Financial Report for March 24, 2012 had a balance forwarded from 10/2/11 of \$3239.15. A correction to the report for the Disbursement of check #1041 was noted – it was reported as \$98 but written as \$93. The balance on hand as of 3/23/12 is \$2396.52.

The treasurer's report also shows a savings account balance forwarded (as of 10/2/11) of \$882.08. We earned \$0.09 in interest, which leaves a total Savings Account Balance (as of 3/23/12) of \$882.17.

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 Fall Council meeting Minutes:

The Minutes approval committee consisted of Flora Burns & Sheen Childress. Both Flora & Sheen reported that the Minutes of the October 2, 2011 VSC Council Meeting were approved as published. The approved Minutes were distributed via email. The committee was dismissed.

Reports of Elected Officers:**1st Vice President: Beth Sherron**

Beth was excited to go to Colorado to attend Leadership in February. As per Susan Winters theme, "ESA its Magic", attendees were asked to wear a wizard costume that represented their life in ESA. Beth wore the costume she created for Leadership to give her report at the meeting today.

Beth also shared a new project from ESA HQ called Celebrate ESA! This is a great way for ESA members across the country to gain publicity for ESA and to share **ALL** the wonderful things we do as an organization. This program coincides with our 40th anniversary with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. More information regarding this project can be found on the ESA website.

<http://www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/community-membership/St--Jude>

We were reminded that our membership is getting older. To increase membership, one idea is to pledge someone the same age you were when you joined ESA.

In closing, Beth thanked all those that have volunteered to serve on the appointed board. There are many positions still available, so please contact Beth if interested. Even with the increased responsibilities we have hosting the 2013 IC Convention, the VSC needs to move forward and continue to grow. She thanked everyone for the opportunity to represent the state at Leadership and is looking forward to being installed as VSC President. Full report is on file.

The Nominating Committee presented the slate of officers for 2012-2013:

First Vice President: Carol Campbell
Second Vice President: Suzanne Smith
Recording Secretary: Kathy Gibbons
Corresponding Secretary: Sue Danielson
Treasurer: Kristine Williamson
Parliamentarian: Susan Caldwell
Jr. Past President: Ginger Hodges

2nd Vice President: Carol Campbell

Carol announced there are new members in all areas of Virginia. Take pride in sponsoring a new member, as it takes effort and hard work. And be sure to invite those new members to VSC council meetings and convention, so they can be recognized. It's not too late to sponsor a new member. Consider sharing your copy of the Jonquil with perspective new members (college grads, MALs, etc). Carol has received a new member packet and would like to share it with anyone interested. Be sure to send your VSC Rushing Award form by April 30th. The VSC Rushing Award form as well as a new member application has been placed in the chapter folders. Full report is on file.

Recording Secretary: Suzanne Smith

Suzanne reported that she got married and has changed her last name from Budd to Smith.

Corresponding Secretary: Gaynell Krista

Gaynell reported that she attended the SERC Conference in Charleston, SC. She also attended Alpha Xi's Prayer Breakfast. Gaynell is hopeful she can attend the Founder's Day celebration in Richmond. She thanked Ginger for the appointment. Full report is on file.

Parliamentarian: Kristine Williamson

According to the VSC Bylaws, any proposed change to the Bylaws, Standing Rules and/or Contests and Awards must be submitted to each chapter of the VSC at least 30 days prior to convention. Five

proposals were brought before the Executive Board today and were all approved. Kristine has placed copies of all 5 proposals in the chapter folders. Proposals 1-4 will be voted on at the 2012 VSC Convention. Proposal 5 (remove all gender specific terms, as ESA is now open to male members) was deemed administrative in nature and as such, does not need general board approval. Kristine will make the required changes. Please discuss and vote on Proposals 1-4 within your chapter prior to convention. Please notify Kristine if you would like to open the floor at convention to discuss any of the proposals. Full report as well as a copy of the proposed changes are on file.

Jr. Past President: Judy Williams

Judy passed her bailing bucket for the final time to collect Disaster Fund donations. She reported that donations have been received from 10 chapters so far. She is hoping for 100% participation. The Lucy Davis Outstanding Chapter President Leadership Award form has been placed in the chapter folders (it is also available on the VSC website). Please be sure to fill one out for your special chapter president and return it to Judy. No bids have been received for the 2014 VSC convention. Flora Burns and Sue Foy noted that they have been busy planning the 2013 IC Convention, and the bid fell off their radar. They will get it to Judy. Full report is on file.

President: Ginger Hodges

Ginger shared some of her ESA adventures. In January, she attended the Alpha Xi Prayer Breakfast in Norfolk. She also attended a Virginia Tech Collegiate ESA chapter meeting, from which, Beta Delta pledged a new member. In February, Ginger learned to play Bunco with the Beta Sigma gals. She was honored to sign the floor (as the VSC President) of the St. Jude Dream Home in VA Beach/Chesapeake. Ginger was also asked by April Mann (our ALSAC rep) to accept a check at a local elementary school for over \$10K, which was raised over 2 years from math-a-thons. All of these great opportunities were afforded her as VSC President and she thanked everyone for the opportunities and invitations. Full report is on file.

Reports of Appointed Board:

Association of the Arts – Amelia Kikos (Alpha Xi):

Please forward any Association of the Arts entry forms to Amelia. If you need a form, please let her know. Report is on file.

Awards Director – Doris Hood (PPA, Beta Tau):

If you are your Chapter Awards Chair, please remember to return the award form (placed in the chapter folder) to Doris. It must be postmarked by May 1st. If you are a VSC Chair responsible for judging awards, please send the names of the award winners to both Ginger and Doris by the reporting deadline. Doris has talked to all the chapters that won a traveling award last year. Those that she has not yet received back will be brought to convention. Report is on file.

Chaplain – Mildred Edwards (PPA, Alpha Xi):

Mildred has sent out 15 Get Well, Condolence and Thinking of you cards since our last meeting. She has placed a few phone calls as well. If she missed anyone, she expressed her regrets. Notices regarding our VSC sisters that have passed have been sent to the SERC and IC Chaplains for inclusion in their Memorial Services. Regarding the VSC Memorial Service to be held during Convention – both Jane Shamblin and Marge Rushford were big Elvis fans. Mildred has a dear friend (Sterling Riggs) that impersonates Elvis and he will sing at the service in their honor. In 2003, Sterling was diagnosed with parathyroid cancer. Doctors had to remove, among other things, his right vocal cord, which controls speech. He should not be able to talk, much less sing. It is a miracle. Please give him a warm, ESA welcome at convention. Report is on file.

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

With our current ESA year coming to an end, don't forget to complete all outstanding St. Jude's projects so your chapter can be credited for all your hard work. April Mann (our ALSAC rep) will be attending convention and with Brenda, will share the totals raised by each chapter for their events.

Brenda reminded everyone that when an event is planned for St. Jude, please be sure to fill out a booked event form on the IC Website. Once the event is complete, be sure to go back and complete the form. Brenda will go over how to fill out the form during her workshop at convention.

The SERC Conference is being held in Memphis in November 2012 and some of the meetings will be held at St. Jude's. She believes tours may be available during this time.

The Circle of Life form has been placed in the chapter folders. Be sure to submit the completed form to her by the postmark deadline of May 1st. Full report is on file.

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

Betty reported that the Blue Ridge District Council has been busy working on convention – “Mardi Gras in the Valley” May 25-27, 2012 at the Best Western Inn and Convention Center in Waynesboro. On Friday night, they have invited members to walk in the “Black Umbrella Procession” to honor those sisters we’ve lost throughout the years and invite their spirits to join us as we kick off the weekend with “Mardi Gras Madness”. If you (or someone from your chapter) would like to be part of the “Black Umbrella Procession”, please contact Debbie Frazier prior to convention. Saturday night, the King and Queen of Mardi Gras will be crowned, so you won’t want to miss it. Tickets to vote for King and Queen have been placed in the chapter folders. The convention registration and hotel room block deadline is April 25th. Full report is on file.

Easter Seals – Anna Black (Pi Rho):

The Richmond, VA Easter Seals office has moved and the headquarters for VA and NC is now in Raleigh, NC. The new address has been updated on the Fran Lanning Award Form. Anna has placed Easter Seals information as well as the updated Fran Lanning Award Form in the chapter folders. Please return the completed forms to her, postmarked by April 15, 2012. Full report is on file.

Educational – Sue Stone (PPA, Beta Delta):

Sue shared that it has been a good year for educational programs and reports. The topics presented have been diverse and informative. From the “Mythology of Cats” to “Lady Bug Bling” and “Gratitude” to “Attitude” and everything in between.

You are invited to attend the “Boxes and Breezes” Educational Workshop Sue is presenting at convention. She promised surprises.

Be sure to nominate your chapter educational director for the State Distinguished Athenian Service Award. The guidelines have been placed in the chapter folders. Sue must receive the nominations at least 3 weeks prior to convention. Full report is on file.

ESA Foundation – Lynn Keffer (Sigma Chi):

Lynn thanked Judy Williams for giving her this position – it has been a great 2 years. Fewer applications were received this year. There were 110 applications for Virginia and 18 applications for West Virginia, for a total of 138 processed applications. Due to tardiness and/or lack of information, 10 applications were unable to be processed. Report is on file.

Historian – Elaine Prillaman (Delta Kappa):

Elaine reminded everyone that we each have a story to tell and Ginger would love to have it. So put those stories together and send her your History report postmarked by May 1st. The rules can be found in the Virginia Standing Rules Contests and Awards. If you need any help, just let her know. Report is on file.

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

Sandy thanked the Elected and Appointed officers as well as the chapters for such good participation in the Winter issue of the Lamplighter. She is not able to send the Lamplighter to each VSC member. The Lamplighter is sent to the Elected and Appointed board, the PPA's, chapter presidents and members that send her an article. If you are among those that receive the Lamplighter, please be sure to share it with

your chapter members that didn't receive it. It is also available on the VSC website. The deadline for the Spring issue is April 15th. Full report is on file. President Ginger recognized Sandy for another fantastic issue of the Lamplighter.

Philanthropic – Flora Burns (PPA, Beta Kappa):

Flora thoroughly entertained us with her unique reporting style. While some cool beats resonated, Flora rapped about some of the philanthropic happenings in the VSC. To name just a few: Alpha Xi works with a local food pantry, Alpha Chi recycles ink cartridges for Easter Seals, Beta Delta works with the Roanoke SPCA & Theta Mu supports our troops. Please remember to notify Flora of your good works. Full report is on file.

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

Bev thanked all the chapters that brought in their scrapbook pages today. She will also accept pages at convention. If you need materials or you need assistance, please contact her.

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

P-Nut thanked everyone that purchased a ticket for the SERC fundraiser. She had our guest Madison draw the winner of the \$100 Visa/MasterCard gift card. Lisa Files was the winner. We raised approximately \$245, which will be the VSC's donation to SERC.

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

Shelby thanked all the chapters that sent in Social reports this year, especially those that have done it via email. Submitting your reports via email saves resources. To that end, Shelby has drafted a proposed Contest and Awards change to update the Social Award 2(c) Method of Executive to add the acceptability of receiving reports via electronic transmission (email). This change was approved by both the award sponsor (Lisa Files) and the executive board. This proposed change will be voted on at convention.

She has enjoyed reading all about your chapter events. Please send her your last report as soon as possible so that judging can be completed. A social workshop will be held at convention. Full report is on file.

State Project – Diane McLane (Theta Mu):

Diane was unable to attend the meeting, but provided a report. Gaynell Krista reported that Diane has started to receive donations for this years State Project Fund. She is looking forward to hearing from everyone else soon. Report is on file.

Workshop Coordinator – Millie Simmons (Alpha Chi):

Millie has received 4 workshops so far. If you are in charge of presenting a workshop at convention, please send her your workshop information as soon as possible. You can send it via email or regular mail.

Finance Director – Sue Danielson (Alpha Delta):

The Finance committee members hosted a contest to select the Chinese Auction item which most closely portrayed the theme "Enjoying the Simple Pleasures of Spring!". The winner was Sigma Chi. The prize was a \$20 donation to the Disaster Fund in honor of their chapter.

Recess was called at 11:12 AM

*****BREAK*****

Call to Order:

Meeting was called back to order by President Ginger Hodges at 11:35 AM.

Task Force – Ginger Hodges (Beta Delta):

Ginger presented the membership with a challenge – think of one person you can invite to a meeting, social, educational, philanthropic event or anything ESA related. Once you've invited someone and they have accepted, you need to make sure they have as much FUN at the event as possible. A few days after the event, be sure to follow up with them via phone or email – don't leave them hanging. If they had fun, invite them to another event. Continue this cycle until they tell you they want to join ESA. The main thing to remember is NOT to forget about them.

Our members love ESA and need to share it with others. We don't want the "lights" of the VSC to be turned off. To this end, Ginger will assign her task force members to various areas within the state to act as cheerleaders. Your cheerleader is there to help you, encourage you and share ideas. By convention, Ginger would like to have 100% participate with her challenge.

Unfinished Business:

2013 IC Convention

1. Sue Foy reported that after the General Board meeting today, there will be an executive meeting (open to all members) to share the progress regarding the 2013 IC Convention.
2. To help ESA members identify the members of the Virginia State Council (the Host state) during the 2013 IC Convention, both Sue and Marie LaDuke reminded us that if you are working the convention, you need to wear a customized apron. Beth Sherron is making these aprons. They are \$8 each. Please contact Beth to place your order.
3. Marie LaDuke reminded us that during the 2012 IC Convention in Oklahoma, the VSC is planning to pass out the hand made stars we made during Cindy Maxwell's Leadership. We need at least 600 stars so that each attendee can have one. It creates excitement for our convention. Marie has purchased fabric to make at least 100 stars. She would like to request each chapter also make 20-25 stars. Directions on how to make the stars and fabric measurements will be published in the Spring issue of the Lamplighter. Please make each star in coordinating colors of red, white and blue. If you made a star at the Leadership and took it home, please bring it to convention. We are not sure how many stars were made during leadership, so it isn't clear how many more need to be made. We may schedule time after the Summer Meeting (June 23rd) to make stars – if you can stay late to help (please keep this in mind when making your travel plans).

New Business:

- ◆ 2013 VSC Convention
Sue Danielson gave a report from Nicole Lewis regarding the plans for the 2013 VSC STATE Convention in Richmond. They are exploring options to keep the costs down so that VSC members will be able to attend BOTH the VSC Convention in May 2013 and the IC Convention just 2 months later in Norfolk. Their goal is to keep the registration cost below \$100. To this end, there will be no Friday night mixer. Convention will begin on Saturday, with workshops starting approximately 11am and the Flag ceremony at 11:30am. The delayed start time Saturday will also allow members to save on lodging costs, by allowing them to arrive that morning. The weekend of May 11 & 12 is under consideration. They are aware that is Mother's Day weekend. A move to May 18 & 19 would significantly increase base costs which in turn would increase registration costs. Additional details will be provided as they become available. These convention changes have been proposed to keep costs down and are planned for 2013 only. With the hosting duties of the 2013 IC Convention, the VSC will be stretched thin. We will all be wearing many hats. But we still need to celebrate our states' accomplishments – it is important. If you have any questions, please contact any of the members of the 2013 VSC Convention Committee: Sue Danielson, Nicole Lewis, Eveleen Harrison and Pam Cook.
- ◆ 2013 VSC Spring Meeting
Sue Danielson also reported that the 2013 Spring Meeting will be in Richmond on March 16th.

◆ 2012 VSC Convention

Debbie Frazier asked that everyone consider placing an ad in the convention brochure. If you decide to do this, she needs the information as soon as possible. In addition, if you are planning to submit a report for inclusion in the convention brochure, please provide that to her as soon as possible. She will accept ads and reports via email, fax or regular mail.

Announcements/Dates to Remember:

- Pricilla Browning (Alpha Omega): She discussed a possible ESA Bookmark project. The bookmarks are made of blue and yellow beads with a star charm on one end and an ESA dangle on the other end. The price per bookmark is \$8. Pricilla can make them for you, but she is also going to submit a proposal to the Executive Board to make this into a VSC project.
- 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.
- The Chinese Auction will be held immediately following this meeting.
- Ginger Hodges/Judy Williams reported that today's disaster fund donations totaled \$305.82. The bucket is still available if you haven't yet donated.
- Judi Darden reported there is an ASK Family Fun Walk in Richmond on Saturday, April 28th. She welcomed everyone to join her to walk and/or support her as she walks for Dalton's Divas.

Final Thoughts – Ginger Hodges:

Ginger thanked everyone for their support during the difficult journey she has been on the past 6 months. Your kindness and caring is appreciated and has truly helped her. Ginger shared a poignant thought: "Never ever let anyone steal your joy away and if you do always make sure that you get it back and never let it go again". Remember the person sitting beside you is your lifelong friend and may be one of your best friends because of ESA.

Adjournment/Closing Ritual:

Ginger adjourned the meeting at 11:58am. She then led the membership in the new closing ritual – as provided by IC.

Finance:

\$311 was raised by the Chinese Auction today.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Smith
VSC Recording Secretary

Submitted for approval on 4/12/12 to the Minutes Approval Committee:
P-Nut Schools - approved as corrected 4/15/12
Bev Scott - approved 4/17/12