

The Lamplighter

Priscilla Browning, VSC President

As I write my article for the Winter Newsletter I trust you all had a wonderful and Blessed Christmas and enjoyed the time with family and friends. I had a fairly quiet time spending it with friends from church and enjoyed our lovely mild weather until this past weekend when the snow came, albeit we did not get the amount that different predictions said we would get which I was grateful for since in my old age I do not enjoy the snow like I did 60+ years ago.

I hope you are all getting ready for the Spring Meeting on March 16 at The Grove, 508 Biggin Pond Road, Midlothian, VA and plan on staying to help celebrate Beta Sigma's Anniversary. If you are planning on staying for lunch and the celebration please give Susan Caldwell a call to reserve your place.

It is hard for me to believe that State Convention is swiftly coming up on May 17-19, 2024 at the Hotel Madison, 710 S. Main Street, Harrisburg, VA, Registration form is available on the website and registration deadline is April 15, 2024.

I am looking forward to testing my Trivia Skills at Beta Sigma's ZOOM Trivia Night on January 13 that benefits ASK and Special Love; if you registered already I believe a link will be sent so you can connect.



VSC Spring Meeting
Saturday, March 16th
9:00 am—Registration & Credentialing
The Grove
508 Biggin Pond Road
Midlothian, Virginia

CARRY THE ESA CANDLE
AND SHARE WITH THOSE YOU MEET



GOOD FRIENDS • GOOD WORKS • GOOD TIMES

Inside this issue

Executive Board Articles.....	2
Appointed Board Articles	3
Chapter News	8
Convention New	16
Spring Meeting Hotel Info	18

Executive Board Articles

Marie LaDuke, VSC 1st Vice President

Greetings to all of you! I hope everyone enjoyed all the holidays and are recovering from all the hustle and bustle as things return to normal.

I have nearly filled the boards for the 2024-2025 year. Thank you to everyone who has accepted positions so far. I will continue to seek someone to serve in the remaining slots.

My goal is to have everything completed before the spring meeting in March. I look forward to working with each of you who has come forth to help the VSC. Together will be have a great year.

I will continue to contact members hoping you will volunteer to help me form the best possible boards. If you see 804.337.1875 show up on your caller ID, please pick up and chat with me.

Beverley M. Wright, Jr. Past President, Disaster Fund Chair

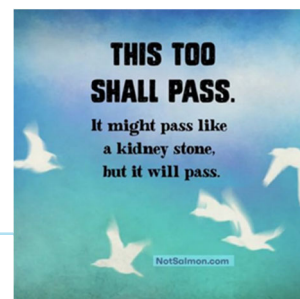
The past few months have been a challenging time for so many of my Virginia sisters and I can relate on so many levels. On that note, let me give you a quick update on Amanda. She started out-patient Physical Therapy yesterday (January 3) to supplement the in-home therapy which ended the week before Christmas. We really liked the therapist we met with yesterday and she and another therapist concentrate on PT for patients with neuro issues. Last week we spoke with a neurologist and Amanda will be receiving Botox injections in her right leg starting tomorrow. They have seen good results with these injections in the lower extremities so we are hoping this, along with the additional PT, will help her become more mobile once again. Thanks again for your prayers!

We are fortunate that we are able to seek out and afford these types of treatments for our own 'challenge' but can you just imagine if you were faced with unexpected and serious health issues or a natural disaster and you had nowhere to turn for help. Thank each of you (individuals and chapters) who have already made a donation to the ESA Disaster Fund. This

could mean a huge difference in the life of an ESA member and you should feel proud for your contribution.

All but two chapters have made donations and in 5 chapters each and every member has made a donation – now that is a real commitment and I could not ask for more! Remember - Each individual (or chapter) who **chooses** to participate in this challenge will receive one (1) ticket. At the 2024 VSC Convention, one of the tickets will be drawn and that person (chapter) will receive **\$100**.

I am sending each of you wishes for good health and tender mercies between now and the VSC Spring Board Meeting. Things to remember – only 65 days until Daylight Saving Time – 70 days before we see one another again – and every day is a gift and opportunity to make a difference in the someone's life!



Appointed Board Articles

Pam Cook, Educational Director

From my Desk to Yours. I am looking forward to seeing what you have been learning about around the state. Reminder that all reports are due no later than April 15 to be considered for the Barbara Midkiff Educational Award. The form can be found on the VSC Website.

Reminder of my contact information:

Email: gogopam1@msn.com

Mail: 2350 New Market Rd Henrico VA 23231

Phone: 804-312-7279

See you in March!!

Beth Sherron, ESA Foundation

The deadline for the scholarship applications is February 1, 2024 at 11pm CMT. They do not have any applications for the following scholarships for Virginia students:

Joseph C Eaheart Jr. Memorial Scholarship

As well as the following for any student:

BMW Hope Scholarship

LaVerne 'Bun' Young Scholarship

McConnel Family Scholarship

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Cancer

Survivor Scholarship

Winger / Leyes Scholarship

Any assistance in spreading the word about these available scholarships by members would be greatly appreciated.

Also be sure your email address is correct with the membership portal. All information from ESA Foundation will be sent to the listed address.

ESA for St. Jude, Susan Caldwell

Happy new year to everyone!

Chapters were really, really busy and generous with hours, miles, and monies for St. Jude projects in 2023!

Here are some totals-to-date from **April 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023**

Donations and In-memory

Donations-\$1, 080.00

St. Jude Dream Home

Campaigns Credits--

\$1, 775,000.00 with more to come

Remarkable and amazing!

Cheers to an even better 2024!

State Projects Director, Beth Sherron

I am so honored to serve the second year of this two-year appointment.

I delivered the checks from last years donations. To say they appreciated the donation would be an huge understatement.

I want to thank Alpha Nu and Delta Sigma chapters for each adopting a family from ASK for Christmas. I have first hand knowledge of the generous donations from Delta Sigma. I met Katrina one Saturday in December in Fredericksburg and delivered their gifts to the office in Richmond on Tuesday. The back of my jeep was so full I couldn't see out the back. It was beautiful!!!! When I delivered the gifts from my jeep club donation on Thursday, I saw the great big pile of gifts from Alpha Nu delivered by Mindy Boyd and Theresa Morris that morning. What a blessing for these families!!!! If your chapters would be interested in adopting a family next December, let me know and I will get you in touch with the office staff working on this project.

Since everyone seemed to enjoy the quilt last year, I am creating another quilt for this year. Raffle tickets will be in the chapter folders at the Spring meeting.

I have received one check so far from a chapter. Thank you, Zeta Nu! I have a question and I want your thoughts please!!!! Is anyone currently working with Special Love in the Winchester area? The reason I am asking is the past three (3) years we have collected approximately \$3,000. Before, we would split between the two organizations because ASK was mainly in Richmond and Special Love was in Northern Virginia. Now, because of funding from the state budget for ASK they have extended all across the state. I would just like to hear any members feedback whether we want to continue to split the smaller amounts to each organization, or choose one that serves the entire state. Email me at bethsherron@verizon.net with your thoughts. It is in our bylaws that the funds will be equally divided until a change is requested.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Richmond on March 16th when I will show you the project I am working on to raffle at convention!

Take care and see you soon.

Brenda Orebaugh, Finance Committee

The theme for Lucky Numbers is "Think Spring.

Lou Ann Wyer, Webmaster

Please let me know if you are in need of updates or changes to the VSC websites. Thanks!

Sue Stone, Historian

Happy New Year to all and best wishes for a successful year. Suffering from the “winter doldrums”?

Now would be a good time to compile your chapter history of 2023-2024.

Entries shall be typed or printed with the chapter name, number and location appearing on the title page. The reporting period is April 1 – March 31. Final report is due April 15th.

Send to Sue Stone, 422 Windward Dr., SW.
Roanoke, VA 24018
Msstone1@cox.net

Guidelines for the contents of the history are:

- Arrange in order of occurrence or by activity
- General coverage for the current year
- Include facts
- Include accomplishments
- Be complete
- Be creative, use own format
- Be clear

Shelby Hodges, Chaplain

I found myself flipping through the pages of a Max Lucado Inspirational Thoughts for Each Day of the Year this morning. The book—Grace For the Moment—fascinated me. He is speaking of items he will choose today—I choose **Love**—I choose **Joy**—I choose **Peace**—I choose **Peace**—I choose **Patience**—I choose **Kindness**—I choose **Goodness**—I choose **Faithfulness**—I choose **Gentleness**—I choose **Self Control**. WOW what a list to talk to God about and how God will you just give me these things for today? Let’s give it a try and choose how we feel about these strong words Mr. Lucado is choosing—Can I do this? Will you join me in this challenge?

Love—Today I will **love** my ESA family even with all the bumps and bruises.

Joy—Any problem I face will be an opportunity to talk with God.

Peace—I will forgive any situation (large or small) so there may be **peace** in my house.

Patience—So, so much going on in the world today and even in our own lives—this one is hard for me—waiting in the Doctor’s office and your appointment is 20 minutes past the time you were to see the Doctor. What happened to my **patience**?

Kindness—This one is so easy—change your attitude and be kind—start with your pets.

Goodness—I will refrain from speaking badly about my friends but only good things.

Faithfulness—I will be faithful to any promise I have made—did I tell the elderly lady at Church, I would pray for her—then I must do this!

Gentleness—I think of our children—did I raise my voice this morning when no one liked the new cereal I bought?

Self-Control—This is the hardest of all—I feel—can I follow through and exert my **Self-control**? Just for today—one day at a time -

And if we can accomplish these for today—why not every day?

God Bless.

Bev Scott, Hope for Heroes

As announced in our sorority year, Virginia's major Hope for Heroes Project is "Tunnels to Towers"! I have attached two articles for you to read, hopefully to inspire you. The first is about another soldier seriously injured in Afghanistan that received a Mortgage -Free Smart home. This time a 25 year old young woman, Maggie Bilyeu, was attacked by a suicide bomber.

The second article is about T2T's amazing new program to provide homes and resources for our Homeless Veterans. Frank Siller, Founder of Tunnel to Towers

Foundation asks, "Their fellow soldiers did not leave them behind as they served their country. Neither should we leave them behind now."

ESA does so much for so many! I realize our economy is hurting, and donations are down. But if you personally, or your Chapter can make a donation to T2T, know that it will be used for the wonderful people who give their limbs and often their lives to help, serve and protect.

Our New Veteran Homelessness Program

The Tunnel to Towers Foundation is committed to honoring the dignity of the U.S. Service Member, and that's why we are committed to helping end homelessness within the veteran community. In 2022, we were able to house and provide services to over 500 veterans that were previously homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Veterans in this program receive the support they need to help them address any obstacles to living a more independent life. In addition to delivering a place to call home, the Foundation also provides comprehensive care by connecting veterans with appropriate local services (such as: employment opportunity programs, mental health counseling, skills training, and addiction support).

Tunnel to Towers will maintain continued follow-up with veterans who have been connected to local



services to help ensure a successful transition to long-term home ownership. We are also building a national referral network to support veterans struggling with homelessness across the nation, no matter the location.

The Foundation's Veteran Homelessness Program furthers its In the Line of Duty mission to DO GOOD in honor of America's heroes.

With your generous assistance, in 2023 we are providing housing and services to more than 1,500 veterans.

Army Veteran Receives a Mortgage-Free Smart Home to Reclaim Her Independence

The Tunnel to Towers Foundation, in partnership with The Home Depot Foundation, welcomed U.S. Army Specialist Maggie Mae Bilyeu and her wife, Mia, to their specially adapted, mortgage-free *smart home* in Lago Vista, Texas.

At the age of 25, Maggie Mae followed in the footsteps of both her grandfathers by joining the U.S. Army. She was stationed at Fort Hood for basic training prior to her deployment to Bagram, Afghanistan.



Just a few months into her deployment as part of Operation Freedom Sentinel, Maggie Mae was struck by a suicide bomber. She sustained multiple shrapnel wounds to her chest and torso, a broken leg, and numerous internal injuries as a result of the blast. Two American soldiers and two American contractors were killed in the incident.

Since then, Maggie has been working hard at her rehabilitation. She enjoys the simple pleasures in life, such as fishing, hunting, and kayaking.

The Tunnel to Towers Foundation and The Home Depot Foundation surprised Maggie on Good Morning America with the promise to build her a mortgage-free *smart home*.



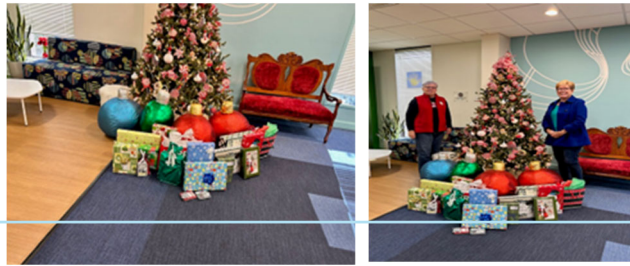
The *smart home* is completely accessible, with automatic doors, wider hallways, and oversized doorways. The kitchen cabinet shelving is designed to enable easy access to plates, cups, and bowls, and a mechanized lift allows the stove to be raised and lowered to wheelchair height. Every feature of the home, including the lights, thermostat, and security system, can be controlled via an app on a smart device or via touch screens built into the home.

Through your generosity, the Tunnel to Towers Foundation's Smart Home Program builds specially-adapted *smart homes* to help our most catastrophically injured veterans to reclaim their day-to-day independence.

Alpha Nu, submitted by Mindy Boyd

Even though Alpha Nu is an online chapter, we continue to meet monthly via Zoom. This year we continued our support of ASK, by providing a family with Christmas gifts! We were extremely blessed to get a family of four: Mom, Dad, the cancer patient and her little brother. Pictured below are pictures showing Theresa Morris and myself delivering the gifts to the ASK office for distribution to the family!

Looking forward to Spring coming! and seeing everyone at the Spring Council meeting in March.
Until then stay *warm and be healthy!!!*



Alpha Omega, submitted by Jane Parrish

Cheryl Spurr, a newer member of Alpha Omega, took on our educational programs this year. She and her husband are both members of Gideon International. I sent a friend one of her birthday cards telling her I was sending 5 Bibles overseas in her name. This way we could help the Bibles get sent out. She is doing a great job with her educational programs. We also helped with a WATTS dinner for the homeless who stay in our churches in the winter months on November 15. For elderly people we gave two items each for the Agency on Aging and served the people at N. W.

Works, Inc. a Christmas luncheon for a great many people on December 21st. It was our 51st luncheon served. We have been supplying two food items each for the Frig. for needy people every other month. Our next fundraiser will be country ham sandwiches. We take orders a month ahead to secure the hams on January the 18th for February the 15th.

Delta Sigma, submitted by Sheen Childrenn

Happy New Year from Manassas! Our Delta Sigma members gathered at a Mexican restaurant in October for a delicious lunch and planning session to map out our year. It was so nice to catch up with everyone! Our December project was very successful. We adopted an ASK family for Christmas. Through the generosity of our members, friends,

and family, we collected over \$600 worth of toys, clothes, and gift cards to bring Christmas joy to this very special family. We're looking forward to more philanthropic opportunities in the new year.



Delta Kappa, submitted by Elaine Prillaman

We (Carol and I) are down to 2 members and not much going on except the Dream Home. Sue, Sandy Lynn, Shelby, and Elaine worked the office without it taking a lot of days since we sold out in 8 days, cleaned up and moved on out of Jim Bucks office. We are limited to space and this is just enough. He has been gracious enough to let us use his office. We are looking forward to using it again and with the increase in numbers we are hoping for a quick finish again this year. Nothing exciting going on except trying to stay healthy and looking forward to Spring.

Christmas was busy for me and I have not heard from Carol. I miss Brenda and Pat so much, can not believe they are gone but not forgotten. Our chapter remembers them by donating to the Good Neighbors Fund in their name each year. It is always busy around my house, that's what you expect from having 4 kids, spouses, and grandchildren. Lots of food and good times. Stay healthy and hope to see all in March. Happy New Year

Beta Tau, submitted by Sandy Reed

After Edna Plancon's passing in May, Beta Tau decided not to follow the usual procedure of monthly business meetings and socials. Since that time Doris and I have gotten together for other events.

In July we went on a Falls Run (my community) bus trip to the Castles of New York for six days. We toured two castles which were each on their own island in the St. Lawrence River. A visit to Hyde Park FDR's estate was also on the agenda. A nice surprise on the trip was a former Beta Tau member from the 70's, Carlotta Puckett, who lives in a sister Del Webb community called Celebrate which is close to Falls Run. The weather in upstate New York was great and we missed the 90 degree weather here.

In September we both attended the Leadership Conference and VSC Fall Meeting in Staunton. October found us in Norfolk at the Marriott for the Virginia Independent Dealers Association Convention. Jody Sullivan's grandson, Donald Sullivan, was being installed as their

State President and he asked us to attend. Doris is his great aunt. We didn't attend any of the meetings but really enjoyed the food functions.

November was another Falls Run three day bus trip to Wheeling, WVA. to see the Festival of Lights and Independence Hall where West Virginia succeeded from Virginia during the Civil War. It was cold and snowy up on the mountain so we had to hustle to stay warm. Fortunately we were on the bus for the light show. Carlotta was also on this trip.

Doris invited me to her home for Thanksgiving dinner and her nephew Don Sullivan, Donald's father, took me to her home on Christmas Eve.

None of these are sorority events, but we manage to stay in touch and have fun now that there are just two of us. We are still donating to St. Jude's, Hope for Heroes and Easter Seals.

No plans yet for 2024 but we will be at the VSC Spring Meeting to help Beta Sigma celebrate their 50th anniversary.



Delta Rho, submitted by Jenny Brunelle

For a group of 60+ ladies, we have been busy since the last Lamplighter! We adopted a street! We did our 2nd street cleaning in October which qualified Delta Rho to have it's own sign on one of our streets. Check us out! October is also the month for the town's Fall Festival. We had a vendor table for Delta Rho/ESA and sold lots of baked goodies for St. Jude. After our November meeting, we headed to Cracker Barrel for lunch and shopping (40% off coupon). Cha-Ching! We also contributed a Thanksgiving meal to a family in need, and clothing to our C Cap. In early December we raffled a basket of treats at our Kiwanis Pancake day...a successful fundraiser for Delta Rho! At our December meeting, we brought our winter "change collection for St. Jude", and had Christmas lunch celebration afterward at Lake Frederick.

Happy, healthy, blessed new year to all!



Beta Kappa, submitted by Lou Ann Wyer

Beta Kappa Remembers:

Margaret "Peggy" Smith

March 17, 1944—November 26, 2023

Peggy Smith died on November 26th after a long battle with dementia. She was a member of ESA for 45 years, most of them in Beta Kappa in Virginia Beach, Virginia. If you knew Peggy, you know she led a rich life of service: in ESA, in her faith and in her daily life. Peggy loved attending the ESA meetings and accompanied Flora on many of these road trips.

There is so much we can say about Peggy—how kind she was, never judgmental nor a bad word about anyone, always giving and so loving. She had 2 boys and their family was rich with love.

Peggy hosted our Beta Kappa yard sale each year. Each one was successful and raised enough money to sponsor the Lake Taylor Hospital Bingo project for the year. Peggy used to work at Lake Taylor and that is how she connected with Beta Kappa. We have played Bingo with the

residents each month for over 50 years, as well as decorate for the holidays.

Peggy bonded with 5 of us with a love of gardening. She didn't love gardening so much at first, but the Garden Goddess bug finally got her, and she enjoyed going on our day trips to all the garden centers.

When Peggy was admitted to Beth Shalom the Garden Goddesses visited her almost every Sunday. We would tell her stories, show her pictures, and bring food! We started wearing our name badges when we could tell that she wasn't able to recall our names. We held Peggy's birthday and Christmas parties at Beth Shalom. The staff were as happy to see us as Peggy. Maybe because we gave them food too!

COVID changed so much and we were unable to visit Peggy for a long time. When we did return to see her, we could see her decline. We always knew she felt safe with us through her smiles and giggles.

Peggy was a special person, a wonderful mother, a shepherd of love and grace for all those who met her. We will miss her dearly.



Lake Taylor Hospital Fundraiser
September 2013



Garden Goddesses - July 2009



St. Peggy's Birthday - 1st Selfie
March 2015



Margaret "Peggy" Barclay Smith



Beta Kappa Easter Social
April 2014



Garden Goddess Garden Party
March 2015



Lake Taylor Bingo
August 2016



Lake Taylor Hospital
November 2014



Garden Goddess Garden Party
June 2010



St. Peggy's Birthday
March 2014

Beta Sigma, submitted by Susan Caldwell

Wow! Beta Sigma had a busy, successful Fall! Monthly Zoom Business Meetings and Educationals, Social Events, Philanthropic Events, and Planning Sessions took up a lot of our time. Each event highlighted "Serving with Your Talents," President Susan's theme for the year.

Each month we participate in a food distribution event for the Chesterfield County Food Bank. Marie's granddaughters, Ruby and Sophie, always show up to help and do a great job!

In September, members gathered at Marie's home to make baby blankets for Little Hands of Virginia.

Most of the chapter traveled to Staunton for the PPA Leadership Conference and VSC Meeting. We held our semi-annual Yard Sale benefitting Easter Seals. We always meet the nicest customers.

October brought us the coolest social event, wine tasting and dinner at The Wine Whisperer in the West End. Our server was so knowledgeable about the new wines and cheeses that we tried. Marie and Susan traveled to Savannah/Poler GA for the 2023 SERC Conference. Susan grew up about 50 miles from Savannah, so this was old home days. We started off the event with a visit to Wet Willie's on the riverfront and then a trip down the Savannah River by paddle boat. We shopped on River Street and then were off to Tybee Island for dinner

at The Crab Shack. Oh yeah, there were meetings too.

Marie's talents were on display in November as she taught us to make pizza dough. Nicole Blankenbeckler was our host for the social offering wine and limoncello. Each member contributed toppings. Don't think we want to order in pizza ever again!

A highlight on December was the Richmond Area ESA Members holiday dinner at Dolce Vita hosted by Alpha Delta. We enjoyed catching up with each other, but we really missed Dot Brown who was unable to attend. Beta Sigma's holiday social and Little Hands Diaper Donation was held at Latitude Restaurant at the Stony Point Fashion Park mall. Delicious food, cocktails, and conversation!

January will bring us our annual Trivia Event benefitting the VSC State Project. Hope the questions aren't too hard and that many of you will join us by Zoom.

Beta Sigma turns 50!! The chapter will host a party at the conclusion of the Spring VSC Meeting March 16, 2024 at The Grove Clubhouse, Midlothian, VA. We're hoping for a big turnout of VSC members and former Beta Sigma members.



Pam, Susan and Marie dropping off donated baby blankets and supplies to Little Hands.



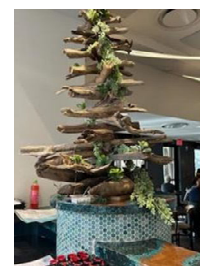
Marie's Power Point Pizza Dough Lesson



Pam & Nicole's pizzas



P-Nut building her pizza



Wood Christmas Tree at Latitude Restaurant

***You are Cordially Invited
to Join Our Gathering to Celebrate
the 50th Anniversary
of Beta Sigma Chapter
of Epsilon Sigma Alpha International
on March 16th
following the USC Spring Meeting
at the Grove's Club House at 508 Biggin
Pond Road in Midlothian, Virginia***

Lunch will be provided

**We request that you donate items for Little Hands
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, which provides essentials to
children newborn to three years old in need in Central
Virginia**

**To learn more about Little Hands and to see their
wish list, visit their website at littlehandsva.org**

**RSVP to Marie LaDuke at marieladuke@comcast.net or call
[804 337 1875](tel:8043371875) by March 4th so we know to plan on you!**



Zeta Nu, submitted by Bev Scott

Happy New Year 2024 to all our Virginia ESA sisters! Granted it is not night as I write this but it is dark and stormy and raining like crazy! There are all kinds of warnings coming across the tv screen... figured I would try to get my article written before the internet or power went out!

Hope you all are staying dry, warm and comfy as I think this weather is hitting us all!

Going backward chronologically, Zeta Nu had a wonderful Christmas social at Stephanie's home. She had decorated so beautifully, and fed us royally! We had lots of fun with our Secret Sister gift exchange! Unfortunately, Sheila was unable to attend, but food, gifts, and good wishes were delivered to her the next day.

Our project for Christmas was the Franklin County Animal No-Kill Shelter which fit with this year's theme, "Pets and Patriots for ESA"! We contributed close to \$300 dollars of needed food and lots of other goodies they needed.

Plus we all contributed to our favorite charities and

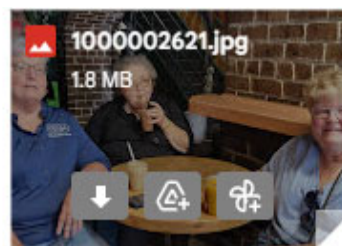
especially the Angel!

As all you Grams out there know, nothing is better than being with the Grands! That was so true as I traveled to Missouri for Christmas. Arjuna is a freshman at MU! Sury a junior at Hickman High, and Pasha, an 8 grader---biggest surprise, other than they are wonderful, is they are all taller than me! First time I ever felt short!

Moving back to SERC, Brenda and I traveled together missing our namesake travel companions. It was one of the best conferences. Rowanda Talley, GA conf chair, did an amazing job, and planned so many fun outing! The Savannah River Walk and boat ride were great! Special order weather---sunny, super warm, and perfect for sitting on the top deck! I'll never tell who was at Wet Willie's before noon!

The conference itself was great and so good to be with our SERC sisters again! As usual the reveals were fantastic!

Back to Zeta Nu in October, we celebrated Halloween at my house. More fun and food!



Beta Delta, submitted by Shelby Hodges

So much has happened since the beginning of our sorority year—Beta Delta has a new member—hurrah—welcome to Cindy Dinkel and thank you Lisa Hale for bringing her to us. Cindy has jumped right in and loving working with our Philanthropic Projects and suggesting and making calls and so much more for us. Welcome and again thanks for choosing Beta Delta and ESA as your outlet to help others and have so much fun while doing just that.

We're following ESA guidelines and members are presenting their Educational Programs assigned to us at the beginning of the year. Lisa's presentation on Our Flag, Ginger's Christmas decorations and Shelby's Let's Get Started in a New Year!

Philanthropic saw us sponsoring two Ways & Means projects—Mary Martha party and a

Pampered Chef party with proceeds going to our state project, Easter Seals and St. Jude. What a great time we had shopping for our two Tree Angels this year. Next let's go get these gifts wrapped and deliver them. That is done on Shelby's sunroom porch that is filled with wrapping paper and boxes. Such fun for a very worthy cause! We are currently saving the metal tabs from drink and vegetable cans which will be given to Ronald McDonald House later this spring. So the next time you pull that tab on a drink can, save it for Beta Delta and we thank you.

Julie and Shelby were able to attend the Fall Council meeting and enjoyed the time with other state sisters and our ride to Staunton. We hope to see you again in March in the Richmond area.

Until then, let's all keep doing the work we love for ESA!



Convention Information

VSC Convention 2024, submitted by Beth Sherron and Pam Smith

We have just turned the corner into 2024 and plans for the VSC Convention are coming along as planned.

We are looking forward to “Celebrating Virginia” on May 17, 18 and 19, 2024. The Hotel Madison in Harrisonburg, Virginia is excited that we are coming back for a second year.

Friday afternoon starts with meeting with Susan Caldwell and her committee at registration and Theta Mu will start the weekend of celebration with the Friday night mixer and dinner.

Saturday will start with workshops and meetings with Priscilla Browning presiding over the convention with IC Parliamentarian Brenda Campbell (Brendacampbell040@gmail.com) from Indiana and SERC Treasurer, Kelli Thornberry (kithornberry@yahoo.com) from Kentucky will be giving us updates during the meeting.

Lunch we will celebrate the history of the Virginia with the Past Presidents’ Auxiliary luncheon.

Saturday night Beta Sigma members are planning the celebration with the installation of Marie LaDuke and her new board. After a wonderful dinner we will celebrate with Susan Caldwell with the St. Jude totals for this year. Sunday morning, after we celebrate the members we have lost this year, Alpha Delta and Richmond Alpha Nu members will plan breakfast for us, then celebrate the achievements of this year with Lisa Hale, Awards Director.

There will be some special baskets celebrating Virginia for you to bid on and there will also be a 50/50 raffle.

Registration for the entire weekend is \$155. The form is included with this article and can also be found on the Virginia state website. Guests, Friday & Saturday nights meals, is set at \$80.

The hotel has been generous and the rooms rates are the same as last year \$144 plus taxes. Please make your reservation with them since they are comping us two nights depending on the numbers of rooms reserved. Here is the link to the reservations or call hotel at (540)564-0200

<https://reservations.travelclick.com/110365?groupID=4000979>

The Richmond chapters Alpha Delta, Richmond members of Alpha Nu, Beta Sigma and Theta Mu are looking forward to everyone coming to Harrisonburg to “Celebrate Virginia” in May!!!





"CELEBRATING VIRGINIA"



2024 Virginia State Council Convention

May 17-19, 2024

Hotel Madison, 710 South Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

(540) 564-0200

Room Rate: \$144.00 + tax

<https://reservations.travelclick.com/110365?groupID=4000979>

Virginia State Council-ESA block of rooms expire on April 15, 2024

Name _____ Chapter & # _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Guest(s) _____

____ VSC Elected Officer

____ VSC Appointed Officer

____ Chapter President

____ Voting Delegate

____ First Convention

____ Member-At-Large

Convention Registration Member \$155.00 \$ _____

 Guest \$ 80.00 \$ _____

Postmarked After April 15th Late Fee \$ 30.00 \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Any form postmarked after May 1 or on-site registrations will not be accepted unless the attendee has given the convention chair 7 days prior notice (May 10). Cost will be an additional \$30.00 (original late fee + \$10) for both member and guest(s).

The registration fee for members includes 4 meals (Friday night, Saturday lunch, Banquet and Sunday Brunch), all meeting room usage, and printed materials). The registration fee for guests includes 2 meals (Friday night & Saturday banquet). A cash bar will be available on Friday and Saturday nights.

Make checks payable to **2024 VSC Convention** and mail check and registration form to
Susan Caldwell, 13932 Krim Point Way, Midlothian, VA 23114

For questions, please contact Beth Sherron, 804-745-0705, bethsherron@verizon.net or Pam Cook Smith, 804-312-7279 gogopam1@msn.com or Susan Caldwell, 804-690-6378 susancaldwellva@comcast.net.

Spring Meeting Hotel Information

Looking for some hotel options for the March 16 Spring Meeting.
The availability in the area seems a bit limited; we are NOT holding any blocks of space,

Fairfield Inn & Suites Richmond Midlothian

150 North Pinetta Drive Richmond, Virginia, USA, 23235

Rates for a double queen starting at \$246

La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham Richmond-Midlothian

1301 Huguenot Road, Midlothian, Virginia 23113

Rates for double starting at \$199

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6576%PtljwHjsyjWgtzqj{fwlWnmr tsiB[nlrsf%878:ZXF%

Rates for double double starting at \$266

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Richmond- Brandermill-Hull St

5030 West Village Green Dr Midlothian VA 23112

Rates starting from \$191

Holiday Inn Express Richmond E - Midlothian Trnpke

8710 Midlothian Turnpike, North Chesterfield VA 23235

Rates for 2 queen beds standard starting at \$183

