

# **Epsilon Sigma Alpha – Indiana State Council**

## **Spring Conference**

**March 9, 2024**

**9:00-10:00 am**

**Registration and Ways & Means**

**10:05 am**

**5-Minute Warning**

Jennifer Morris 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

**10:10am**

**Meeting Convenes**

**Call to Order**

Cindy Norman President

**Opening Ritual**

All

Members of Epsilon Sigma Alpha, we meet again to pledge ourselves anew to the vows of our ritual which we accepted in the golden glow of a candle lighted room. Let us be ever mindful of the responsibilities that we pledged to our organizations, keep faith with ourselves and each other, and be tolerant and sincere and ever worthy to wear the badge that symbolizes virtue, honor, truthfulness and friendliness.

**Opening Thought**

Maddie Kerr Chaplain

- “Kind hearts are the gardens. Kind thoughts are the roots. Kind words are the flowers. Kind deed are the fruits. Take care of your garden, and keep out the weeds. Fill it with sunshine, kind words, and kind deeds.” - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, American poet
- Pledge of Allegiance

**Welcome & Introductions**

Cindy Norman President

- Cindy introduced the state board for all in attendance.
- IC, MARC, and PIP introductions for all in attendance.

**Welcome & Instructions**

Wendy Hahn, President Eta Pi

- Announcements: covered location of the restrooms, water station, open wifi network and lunch options.

## **Roll Call**

Jenn Balkema, Treasurer

- Amanda Zahorsky made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from Fall Conference in October. Motion seconded by Sherrie Sutton, motion carried.
- Officers Present: Cindy Norman, Kary Soto, Jennifer Morris, Jenn Balkema, Amanda Zahorsky, Vivian Greeson, Alley Gary, Elaine Chaney, Mary Brewer, Maddie Kerr, Monica Haddock, Jenni Russ, Sherri Sutton, Mary Clark, Megan Gray, Makayla Greeson, Courtney Ginder.
- Officers Absent: Cyndi Murphy, Brenda Campbell, Laura Campbell, Jennifer Skinner, Jaclyn Thomas.

## **First Time Attendee and Pledges**

Kary Soto, 1<sup>st</sup> VP

- Recognized New Pledges and sponsors
  - Laura Sanders- Megan Gray
  - Pam Roman-Leigh Gary
  - Derrionna-Kary Soto
- First Time Conference Attendees
  - Elaine Climore – Beta Phi Rockville
  - Erin Wilson – Alpha delta, sponsor Elizabeth Maxey
  - Jennifer Lucero – Eta Pi Fishers, sponsor Monnica Haddock

## **Correspondence**

Elaine Chaney Corresponding Secretary

## **Officer Reports**

### **Treasurer**

Jenn Balkema

- Account balances as of 2/29/2024
  - CD: \$5,061.88
  - Savings: \$492.93
  - Checking: \$16,616.76, available \$16,496.76
- Budget updated through the end of February 2024.
- Delta Sigma Evansville and Phi Alpha are not eligible for awards.

### **Recording Secretary**

Amanda Zahorsky

No report

### **Corresponding Secretary**

Elaine Chaney

- Hello Indiana ESA! I would like to thank Brenda Campbell as we have both been sending out requested email blasts. As a reminder, we try to send out emails on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month when a request is submitted. To ensure a timely response to

requests, please be sure to include: attachments, contact information for anyone who has questions about the information sent, and the dates that you would like the information sent. Thank you for all you do throughout the state supporting out Hoosiers.

### **Lamp Editor**

Brenda Campbell

- Hello everyone, I apologize again for my absence. I really miss seeing everyone. Laura and I are moving this weekend and the movers will be there at 9:00am.
- The March issue of the Lamp was full of good things. I appreciate everything that is sent to me. It makes a much better publication.
- I plan to see everyone at State Convention. I am having both knees replaced on May 20<sup>th</sup>, and expect to be recovered enough to attend. Be kind to one another.

### **Membership**

Kary Soto, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

- Membership totals for the State: 233 members, 66 members at large and 10 DESA/ELAN members.
- Kary made the trip to Denver, Co for Leadership. Her big takeaways are:
  - Staying connected and offering different options for members to remain connected. Keeping/Diversifying communication means to keep all members involved.
  - IC Membership Coordinator: Just One More Mondays @ 8pm EST, live 30-40 minute chats for membership ideas.
  - Discussion of the future of Indiana State Board
    - Proposed a committee to help work on what Indiana ESA looks like for the next year and the future (5 years).
    - The State Board currently has 22 members in Indiana. Most states don't have this large of a board.
    - Committee would be looking into necessary Bylaw changes to combine some positions to meet board positions.
      - Multiple attendees gave opinions/comments-
        - Sherrie Sutton gave an example of offices that could possibly make sense to combine.
        - Pam Grenard – PIP voiced to keep in mind that the committee would need to be cognizant of what offices they combine and try to ensure the combinations balance work load for the officer throughout the year.
        - Brandi Small- asked what offices board was thinking of combining? Kary advised that the point of the discussion is to drive the formation of a committee to guide the state board with changes, if decided.

- Sherrie Sutton said the immediate discussion should be focused around combining offices, then the second portion of the discussion should be around two- years term time.
  - Kelly Hansen voiced concerns that combining officers and two year terms could stress officers more than they currently are.
  - Gloria Wilson commented that she thinks a survey should go out to all members from this committee to get feedback and ideas from membership.
  - Megan Gray continued support for Gloria's comments and added that an application should be considered for this new committee and sent off to another state to help with selection of an unbiased opinion.
- Attendance for Conference today, had 68 members register for Spring conference and 60 showed up!
- Kary introduced her board for next year as follows:
  - Kary Soto – President
  - Jennifer Morris - 1<sup>st</sup> VP
  - Pam Couch-Vogel – 2<sup>nd</sup> VP
  - Jennyfer Balkema – Treasurer
  - Amanda Zahorsky – Recording Secretary
  - Laura Campbell – Parliamentarian
  - Makayla Greeson – Educational
  - Alley Gary – Corresponding Secretary
  - Cindy Norma – Jr Past President
  - Susan Waltz – MARC Representative
  - ?? - MARC Representative
  - Megan Gray – Sr St Jude Coordinator
  - Aphrodite Hudson – Jr St Jude Coordinator
  - ?? Easterseals Coordinator
  - Jenni Russ – Foundation Chair
  - Elaine Chaney – Chaplain
  - Mary Brewer – Lamp Editor
  - Maddie Kerr – Collegiate Coordinator
  - Brandy Small – Awards
  - Monica Haddock – Association of the Arts
  - Courtney Ginder – Webmaster
  - Jaclyn Thomas – Scrapbook
- Kary stated she still needs an Easterseals coordinator – Sue Bigler of Eta Pi volunteered.

- It has been brought to Kary's attention that there are two officers that are on this year's state board that are wanting to fill the same positions for next year's state board. Bylaws, Article II, section 1.b states that no one person may hold the same officer in consecutive years.
  - Denise Hagerty requested to rescind the above Bylaw from Article II, section 1.b for the upcoming year only.
  - Bj Voll seconded, motion carried.
- Kary's theme for next year is Sparkle/Shine!

### Chaplain

Maddie Kerr

- With State Conference in a few months Maddie needs help making the ceremonies a success.
  - How can you help?
    - Complete the Celebration of Life Form, can be found at: <https://forms.gle/dtYCxTMGx1B1JbEk8> & Maddie has hard copies with her today. You can fill them out today and return them to Maddie or mail them to Maddie with photos by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
    - Celebrate new life (birth or adoption)
    - Celebrate new love (marriage)
    - Celebrate a life well lived (loss of an ESA member or spouse)
- Let Maddie know who will be carrying your Chapter Banner
- Flag Ceremony
  - American Flag-IC rep
  - Indiana Flag- need to pick someone/have volunteer
  - Christian Flag-need to pick someone/have volunteer
  - MARC Flag-MARC repo
  - ESA Flag- Cindy Norman
  - ESA Foundation Flag-our Foundation counselor

### Philanthropic

Jennifer Morris, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

- In the current issue of the Lamp there are upcoming events for Anna's Celebration of Life Foundation. Please refer to Lamp for those dates.
- The design for the Camp Riley t-shirt is not available yet and neither is the price of the shirt. Please see Jennifer before you leave today if you want to order a Camp Riley t-shirt. I will need your name and t-shirt size. I will send updated information through a blast when it becomes available.
- The campership form to sponsor a specific camper to camp is available on the ESA Indiana website. I also have the form with me today. I am happy to give one before you leave today if you know or even think that you will be sponsoring a specific camper to go to camp.

- The Camp Riley wish list is also available on the ESA Indiana website. I have copies of the list with me today. Please see me before you leave today if you want a copy of the list to take with you.
- I have a copy of the Riley Children's Foundation Annual Report and the Endowment form for next year. Please see me if you would like to see either report. I also have with me today 2 greeting cards from the Riley Foundation if you want to see those.
- There was a small glitch with the Google doc form on my end for receiving the state project form for next year. The glitch has been resolved. There was one form submitted for the 2024-2025 state project. The submission was to retain Camp Riley and Anna's Celebration of Life Foundation so there will still not need to be a vote at State Convention.
- The philanthropic reporting form is available on ESA Indiana website. Please remember to submit your Chapter's philanthropic report for the 2023-2024 sorority year no later than May 15<sup>th</sup>. Megan Gray is going to demonstrate how to complete the philanthropic report. Philanthropic awards will be presented at State Convention.
  - Megan Gray went over the excel spreadsheet
  - Courtney Ginder and Megan Gray will be making an instructional video to help explain how to complete the form
  - Dashboard totals will be locked and the form has formulas that will do the math for you when completing.
  - The form has tabs at the bottom for each initiative, totals from each page will total from the line on the page (you can add additional lines as needed).
  - The form will be placed on the website for Phil chairs to download and use for this year, due 5/15/2024.
  - this form is a google doc and can be downloaded to work with Apple/Microsoft products
  - Spoke with former presidents regarding Camp Riley, you do not need to sub categorize camperships/activities/camp supplies when reporting
  - The last tab of the google form is for your chapter's specific projects. There are 130 lines and more can be added.
- Turning attention to the 2024-2025 ESA Indiana year
  - I need to fill 3 committees totaling 10 people
    - The nominating committee
      - Includes you incoming 1<sup>st</sup> VP- Jennifer Morris and 3 additional committee members who must be from 3 different chapters.
      - Responsibilities: receiving nominations from chapters for elected offices, bids for Fall Conference and Spring Conference, bids for State Convention and prepare ballots.
      - Please send Jennifer Morris your name if you are interested in serving on this committee.

- The election committee
  - Includes 1<sup>st</sup> VP-Jennifer Morris and 4 additional members from 4 different chapters
  - The election committee opens and closes the polls at state convention and gives the teller's report to the President.
  - Please send Jennifer Morris your name if you are interested in serving on this committee.
- The Chapter Counseling Committee
  - This committee includes 1<sup>st</sup> VP-Jennifer Morris and 3 additional members from different chapters.
  - This committee aids and assists chapter problems.
  - Please send Jennifer Morris your name if you are interested in serving on this committee.
- Any questions about committees, philanthropic, or anything I did not cover today that you wanted to know about?

#### **Educational Director**

Alley Gary

- Theme this year is Planting the Seeds of ESA to Grow and Connect
  - ESA Trivia Game played in pairs
    - This trivia game was presented by Charlotte at Leadership
    - Trivia game was won by Lexi and Bj Voll, they get to get in line for lunch 2<sup>nd</sup> behind the pledges.
  - Forms are due May 15<sup>th</sup> and can be found on the website.
    - Awards given at state convention include
      - Gold Link Award – all educational directors are eligible to win if they presented and submitted at least 3 educational report to their chapters this year.
      - Distinguished Athenian Award – educational director who presented and submitted the MOST educationals to their chapter.
      - Awards given at IC
        - Maie L Wells – state educational directors
        - Gold Seal Merit – chapter educational directors
        - Alley will notify members if they are being submitted for the IC awards so they can get their educational binders ready for submission and bring to state convention.
    - Forms have been submitted by 3 chapters so far, there is still time! Alley is not checking on forms submitted until May 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **11:43am Luncheon Prayer**

Maddie Kerr, Chaplain

#### **11:45am- 1pm: Break for Lunch and Ways and Means**

## 1:00pm Reconvene

### Easter Seal Coordinator

Makayla Greeson

- Deadline for Easterseals monies is March 31, 2024.
- Easterseals forms are updated on the website, please make sure to check the space in form if you want your monies to go to the state project.

### Easter Seals Special Project Chair

Alley Gary

- The State signed a contract to donate \$5,000 per year for the next 5 years, through 2029.
- \$5,000 donation must be met by June 30<sup>th</sup> each year
  - So far we have:
    - \$460-\$500 raised from Facebook Basket raffle
    - \$250 Gamma Pi Donation
    - \$290-250 minimum goal today to reach \$1000 raised
  - Ask chapters what their plans are to donate as this was a State wide project voted on?
    - Terre Haute chapter said \$100 check is in mail
    - Eta Pi Fishers is selling their Eggs for Easterseals currently through March 15<sup>th</sup>
    - Chi Omicron wreath sales totaled \$400
  - Have roughly \$1360 out of the \$5000 accounted for.
  - Future fundraiser ideas?
    - Lottery ticket tree
    - Black Out My Board
    - Pick a Star
    - Pay the Number on it 1-50 (\$1275)
- Ways & Means Table
  - Silent Auction 3-piece painting ( 24in x 60in) painted by person with a disability that received services from Easterseals, starting at \$50.
  - Egg shaped coasters (6in x 4in) \$3 each or 2 for \$5
  - Blind wine pull \$7 a bottle
- 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Outing Benefiting Easterseals Crossroads
  - All proceeds go towards the bench for the New Sensory Garden at Easterseals Crossroads
  - Lynn-Registration
    - registrations are needed, currently have 6 registrants
    - \$80/person- 94 tickets still available



- Tickets include: 2 beer/wine tickets, lunch and 2 hours of course play or game play
  - See Lynn as she has registration forms, if you pay today via credit card there will be no additional fee. Deadline to register is 3/28/24.
  - Event begins with registration at 11am, golfing starts at 12pm and ends at 2pm.
- Leigh-sponsorships
  - Company sponsorships are available for \$250
  - your company will receive marketing time on the screens at the bays during the event.
- Elaine-silent auction
  - Silent auction will be held on an online platform, which will allow for non-locals to participate.
  - 24 hours access for the auction will start at 2pm on Friday, 4/12/24 and run through the event.
  - \$2000 in products to auction, still needing additional auction items.
- With max of 100 golfers profit is roughly \$3685. If we do not hit the \$5000 donation that is specified in the signed contract we lose naming rights of the bench in the sensory garden.
- Costs the ESA for the event
  - 25 bays at \$450
  - drinks for registrants \$1600
  - food \$1200
  - total cost to make \$3685.00 is \$3250.
- Vote to drop registration obligation from 100 to 80
  - 29 people voted for dropping to 80
  - 18 voted to keep at 100
  - Motion passes to drop to 80

## **Awards Chair**

Mary Brewer

- Greetings Indiana ESA
- In anticipation of the State Convention, I wanted to take this opportunity to remind chapters the following categories are judged prior to State Convention. Applications are due May 15<sup>th</sup> and more information can be found on the website.
  - What ESA Means to Me Essay
  - Outstanding Pledge
  - Outstanding Chapter
- A committee of five judges will be selected; names are kept confidential. If anyone is interested in being a judge please reach out to Mary directly.
- Thank you and looking forward to seeing everyone in April at the Easterseals Golf Outing!

**Parliamentarian**

Vivian Greeson

- There have not been any Bylaw changes submitted this year
- Thus there will not be any Bylaw changes to vote on at State Conventions this year

**Association of the Arts**

Cyndi Murphy

- No report

**ESA Foundation Counselor**

Jenni Russ

- Indiana currently has the following eligible for voting in the 2024 ESAF elections:
  - 10 Chapters
    - If your chapter is a member and you are unsure who is your point of contact is for chapter voting, I can confirm that information. This will ensure you receive the critical email with your personalized link to vote.
  - 29 individuals
    - If you are an individual ESAF member, please be sure that the email address in the ESA member center is correct.
  - Indiana State Council
  - If you are unsure of your eligibility for voting in 2024, I can look that up for you. See me today or contact me after conference.
  - If you are not a member of the Foundation it is always a great time to join. Individuals who join or renew their membership before 12/31/2024, are eligible to vote in 2025. Annual dues are \$40 or a one-time payment of \$500 for a life-active membership in the Foundation. Member dues are tax-deductible. If you want more information about joining the Foundation, please see Jenni.
  - There have been two gifts to the Indiana Scholarship Endowment, totaling \$260, and one chapter that has used the Turnaround Fund for a donation to Camp Riley.
  - The ESAF Pathway Program is new this year, and I was excited to be a part of the team that came up with the vision. I hope to see some of my Indiana family support this program by honoring chapter sisters, family, friends, or other special people. This is a great way to honor your chapter or chapter president, your member of the year, or your secret sister as we approach the end of the ESA year. Please see Jenni for a flyer.

**Hope for Heroes/ Disaster Fund**

Jennifer Skinner, Jr Past President

- Disaster Fund
  - The mystery bags sold for Fall Conference raised \$120 for Disaster fund!
- Hopes for Heros
  - I'd love to hear what your chapters are doing this year!

- Member of the Year
  - At Fall Conference, I asked if the current way of awarding Member of the Year was meaningful, if it's exciting and relevant for your chapter, what do you like, and what would you change. I did receive a little bit of feedback. You'll see some small changes to the form and judging. The updated form is now posted on the Indiana State website under More>Forms>State Conventions Forms.
  - They are due May 15<sup>th</sup>

#### **Collegiate Coordinator**

Monica Haddock

- Monica is planning a visit to Ball State University with Maddie.
- What can we help with for planning for next year?
- Eta Pi is having an April social with Phi Alpha.

#### **St Jude Coordinators**

Laura Campbell & Megan Gray

- St Jude Walk/Run is 9/23/2024
- Memphis Marathon is 12/1/2024
- All reports are due by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Webmaster**

Courtney Ginder

- Hello everyone! Short report for me!
- Officer emails have been removed from the Indiana State Council page so that officers emails are not being subjected to phishing and hacking attempts.
- If you need to get in touch with a state officer, you can use their personal emails (if you know it) or email [esaindianastatecouncil@gmail.com](mailto:esaindianastatecouncil@gmail.com) and it will be forwarded to the appropriate officer.
- All chapter rosters and minutes from Conferences and State Convention are uploaded onto the website. I know this is much later than usual and I very much appreciate your patience with me.
- All forms should be updated and ready to go for the end-of-the-year reporting. If you see one that is not updated, let me know immediately so that I can inform the appropriate officer.
- Social Media
  - Please send me your fundraiser/events, chapter socials, etc!
  - Unless you specifically want me to use your flyer, I will most likely create one that is optimized for social media (square, not a lot of text on the image, etc. ) If you want me to use yours, that's perfectly fine too, just be aware I may need to crop it if needed.

#### **Scrapbook Chair**

Jaclyn Thomas

- No report but keep sending me photos.

#### **MARC Reps**

Sherri Sutton & Mary Clark

- At MARC we raised over \$400 with our Ways & Means projects this year.
- Thank you Cindy for allowing us to represent you!
- Next year MARC is in St Louis!

### **Chapter Announcements & Raffles**

- Denise Hagerty proposed 10/23/2024 Purse bingo- Hosted by the State and Gamma Pi for the Easterseal Crossroads commitment. 20 games of bingo event/prizes playing for designer purses.
  - We would need state commitment
  - Moose provides food/drinks- Greenwood from 4pm-9:30pm
  - Take Sponsors for purses
  - Motion made by Rosanne Gary to have Gamma Pi reserve 10/23/24 for purse bingo event, Alley Gary Eta Pi seconded the motion. Vote carried, motion passed.
- May 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 purse bingo for Anna's Celebration of Life 5:30-9pm
- Eta Pi – Fishers announced they are still selling Eggs for Easterseals through March 15<sup>th</sup>. Also Eta Pi is hosting a Murder Mystery dinner 4/27/2024 at the Fisher's American Legion tickets are \$35/person.
- Ham & Bean Supper benefiting St. Jude on 4/6/2024 in Mooreville.
- **Chi Omicron 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fashion Show 4/20/2024. Brunch and mimosas along with shopping from retailers.**

### **Important Dates:**

- International Convention July 7-14, Overland Park, KS
- State Convention June 14, 2023 (Board Meeting) will be held as late as possible.
  - June 15-16, 2024
  - Terre Haute Convention Center, Terre Haute, IN; Hosted by Beta Phi
  - Cindy has registration forms, \$180 for full registration, parking at hotel is free. If you don't park at the hotel the garage is \$1/hour. There are 3 restaurants at the casino, come Friday night to visit casino, there are several restaurants you can walk to from the Holiday Garden Inn. Hotel is 2 queen beds with microwave and refrigerator. Sherrie will email out for a blast this information.

### **Closing Thought**

Maddie Kerr Chaplain

- “Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver.” - Barbara De Angelis

### **Closing Ritual**

Here we close, may we guide and direct each other so that we remain steadfast in our hearts and faithful to our pledge. May we be reminded of our goals and as we go our separate ways,

may we ever hold aloft the ray from the lamp of learning that those who follow in our footsteps may be guided by its light.

Roll Call from Spring Conference 3/9/2024

City	Chapter	Pres.	Members	ELAN	Total
Avon	Chi Omicron	1	6	0	7
Avon	Gamma Tau	0	0	0	0
Evansville	Delta Sigma	0	0	0	0
Fishers	Eta Pi	1	14	0	15
Fort Wayne	Alpha Zeta	1	3	0	4
Huntington	Beta Chi	0	1	0	1
Indianapolis	Gamma Pi	1	17	0	18
Muncie (BSU)	Phi Alpha	0	0	0	0
N. Manchester	Epsilon Sigma	1	0	0	1
Plainfield	Omega Chi	0	2	0	2
Pleasant	Alpha Delta	1	2	1	4
Rockville	Beta Phi	1	3	0	4
Seymour	Beta Kappa	0	0	0	0
Seymour	Delta Delta	0	0	0	0
Terre Haute	Delta Zeta	1	1	1	3
Lafayette	Lambda Mu	1	0	0	1
Total		9	49	2	60