

Epsilon Sigma Alpha – Indiana State Council

Fall Conference – September 21, 2024

Roanoke Legion – Ft. Wayne, In @ 10:00am

9:00 – 10:00am Registration and Ways & Means

9:55am 5-minute warning Pam Couch-Vogel 2nd Vice President

10:00am Meeting Convenes

Call to Order Kary Soto 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 candlelit room. Let us be ever mindful of the responsibilities that we pledged to our organization, keep faith with ourselves and each other, be tolerant and sincere and ever worthy to wear the badge that symbolizes virtue, honor, truthfulness and friendliness.

Opening Thought Elaine Chaney Chaplain

- Pledge of Allegiance
- When I think of Sparkles I think of
 - Glitter, the stars, bubbling personalities and hope
 - Sparkles are resilient and tenacious. The briefest beam of sunlight causes them to shine out in the dustiest and dreadful places
 - Glitter sparkles because of the many different full and broken pieces it's made of. Allowing for change as the light shifts, as time passes.
 - The sparkles we share today is a reminder that each of us are beautiful in our sacred imperfections.
 - I invite you to join me in silence – you may say a prayer or hold a thought for the time we have together today.
 - Now I invite you to look around at all the beautiful faces gathered in this one space. Look at all the talents, joy givers, and the peace makers gathered today.
 - We are sacred beings made of stardust, friendships and glitter
 - Throughout the day I encourage you to marvel at how sparkly and fabulous we are

Welcome and Introductions Kary Soto President

- Introduction of the Board

- Introduction of PIPs in attendance
 - Jan Rahn, Gloria Wilson, Pam Grenard, Debbie Frasier, Diane Binkerd, Carmen Oswalt, JC Peak, DeOn Cahill, Roseanne Robertson, Lynn Howley, Denise Hagerty, Susan Waltz, Alley Gary.

Welcome and Instructions

Alpha Zeta -Jennyfer Balkema

Guest Speaker

Cindy from Erin's House

- Erin's House for Grieving children is in it's 32nd year. This is a beautiful community outreach program that started not from a happy reason, but for a happy outcome. This organization provides services to the community for no cost and receives no federal or state funding. This is a peer support-based outreach where the children range from 3-18 in age who have experienced a death. The children are grouped by age and same death experience.
- Erin's House is working to provide services for ages 19-25 as this is a lost service.
- Their facility is 4500 sq foot building, which is currently in the phase 2 – capital campaign.
 - They expect to have their launch and ribbon cutting on the new facility in the beginning of 2025.
- This organization also offers school outreach programming located in NE and SW Fort Wayne. They are in 52 different schools and service 400 children. If a school identifies 5 children in need Erin's house will work with that school's counselors to get the kids services they need.
- Erin's house also provides individual and family camps offsite that can include fun activities such as ropes courses.
- This organization is staffed by 14 adults that help bring outreach to homicide/suicide grief victims throughout community outreach and afterschool programming.
- They reach 2,000-3,000 youth each year

Roll Call

Amanda Zahorsky

Recording Secretary

- Dispense with the reading of the minutes from State Convention in June.
 - Amanda Zahorsky made a motion to dispense with the reading of the 2024 State Convention meeting minute. Alley Gary second, motion passed.

First Time Attendee and Pledges

Jennifer Morris

1st Vice President

Correspondence

Alley Gary

Corresponding Sec.

- No report

Announcement: DeOn Cahill

- Eta Pi has started a book club. There is a Facebook page that is open to all to join in our roots. ESA was started as a book club.

- DeOn has suggested bringing back an annual book club meeting at the Indiana State Convention 2025, she will make an announcement at Spring Conference with the details.

Officer Reports

• Treasurer

Jenn Balkema

- Budget Review
 - Hi! You all have copies of the 2024-2025 Budget on your table. The changes from last year were more housekeeping type changes to clean it up some. Last year we spent about \$1000 more than we brought in; the over \$1000 profit from the 2024 state convention was a big help!
 - 2024-25 does not balance but we are only over budget by \$757.84 which is a better start than last year.
- Treasurer Report
 - The balance in the checking account as of Aug. 31st is \$16,129.34. Savings balance is \$492.93. The CD balance is \$5186.57.
 - So far for the year we have had \$0 in income and \$59.60 in expenses. I have two checks to deposit as well as some reimbursements to give today that are not accounted for yet.
 - ISC state dues are due by January 1st, 2024 – the updated form should be on the website. IC dues are also due then and Tax Facts were due a week ago... All the other forms on the website are updated and good to go for the year.
 - Just a note from last year - you can write one check for the Indiana State Council donations – I can figure out from the form how much goes where or you can jot it on the check. Please remember for your Camp Riley/Riley Foundation donations to please specify what you want your money to go towards and if it is a specific camper, please print their name legibly so we can get it to the right place 😊
 - ***And remember - “She who leaves a trail of glitter is never forgotten.” — **Kate Spade**

• Recording Sec.

Amanda Zahorsky

- Officers please get me your reports as soon as possible.
- Corresponding Sec. Alley Gary
 - No report
- LAMP Editor Mary Brewer
 - Greetings Indiana ESA
 - Mary is unable to attend our Fall Conference this year, but asked that we thank everyone for their articles, new and pictures, submitted thus far.
 - The LAMP was emailed on September 2 and the LAMP blast was sent on September 18. Is everyone receiving the emails? She is not seeing any returned/undeliverable email messages at this time, but please check with your chapter members, especially if there are any new chapter members, to ensure they are receiving the emails.
 - Please also remember that anyone in Indiana ESA may submit an article or picture for the LAMP.
 - Next due date is 11/1/2024 for the December issue
- Membership Jennifer Morris
 - Opening Joke: What did the sushi say to the bee? Wasabi
 - 9/12/24 Membership report: 238 members, Gamma Pi largest with 30 members and Delta Kappa smallest with 1 lifetime member Reba Golli. The oldest chapter is Beta Kappa and the newest chapter is Chi Omicron.
 - October is recruitment month, The “Just One More” campaign runs through 2024.
 - 2025-2026 year ESA Google forms
 - 2025 Fall Conference, 2026 Spring Conference, 2026-2027 IC Convention are updated. Bids are due 1/1/2025
 - State Officer nominations due 1/1/2025 for the 2025-2026 State Council
- Chaplain Elaine Chaney
 - You may use the Chaplain report found on IN ESA website. You may also email or text Elaine. She is not one to answer phone calls. But you can give her noted and she will ensure IC and MARC receive and are provided the information.
- Awards Sue Bigler
 - Courtney has sent me updated files and forms for the Awards office. Thank you, Courtney! These include Service Awards, Chapter of the Year, Pledge of the Year, and What ESA Means to Me essays.

- Sue discussed the above forms for each award, these can be found on the State website under Convention Forms and are due 5/15/2025 for the 2025 State Convention.

• Parliamentarian

Laura Campbell

- The bylaws are available on the website, any proposed changes are due by 12/31/2024.
- If there are submissions these will be voted on at state convention 2025.

• Association of the Arts

Monica Haddock

- Forms are online.
- Zen doodling exercise, so fun!

12:00 Lunch and Ways & Means

1:00 Reconvene

Continue Officer Reports

• ESA Foundation

Jenni Russ

- How many of you have heard of the ESA Foundation?
How many of you would say you have a very strong understanding of what the Foundation does and how?

Let me provide you with some background. The ESA Foundation is a separate financial and tax entity from the ESA Membership Corporation. ESA Foundation (or ESAF) is a non-profit tax-exempt corporation with 501(c)3 status. The ESA Foundation was established in 1970. Its primary mission is to promote education by awarding undergraduate and graduate scholarships and grants to support people changing careers or seeking additional training in their current career field.

- **It is Scholarship Season! The Foundation offers more than 200 endowed college scholarships** for undergraduate and graduate-level students. The application portal opened September 1 and the deadline for application is January 31, 2025. If you know a high school senior, a current college student, a student applying to or currently enrolled in graduate school, please let them know about the ESA Foundation scholarships. ESA members and their family members are eligible to apply for scholarships but receive no special preference in the selection process.
Direct students to www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/scholarships. There is also a QR code you can scan at my Ways and Means table that will take you directly to the page so you can share by email or text right from your smartphone.

- **So, where does all this money come from?**

The Foundation is funded by donations from individuals, ESA Foundation members, and from annual and ongoing fundraising programs developed by the Foundation.

- **So, how can you support the ESA Foundation?**

Here are a few facts about ESA Foundation membership:

A person does not need to be a member of ESA to become a member of the ESA Foundation.

Membership dues are \$40 annually for individuals and chapters and a Life Active membership is available for a one-time fee of \$500.

- Indiana currently has 30 individual members. Eleven of Indiana's 17 chapters are members, including 2 with Life Active status. The Indiana State Council is also a Life Active member, which reflects well on our state's commitment to the Foundation. Several of you have memberships up for renewal for the end of the year.

- When you become a member of the Foundation and recruit others to join as well, you are helping to support the general operations of the Foundation along with grant programs. As a member, you also have a voice in the election of Directors for the Board of Directors. ESA Foundation elections occur in an online format each year. To be eligible to vote in 2025, your dues (new member or renewal) must be paid by December 31, 2024. Several members are due for renewal between now and the end of the year. If you have been a member in the past but are unsure whether or not you have paid dues this calendar year, you can log into member center, go to "my account", select the option "donate to ESAF" and then select "View my Foundation Giving History" from the drop-down menu. You'll be looking for the item "Annual Dues-Individual" with a date of 1/1/2024 or later. If you would like a visual tutorial, please email me.

- **If you are ready to be a member or upgrade your membership to a Life Active membership**, you'll log into Member Center and click on "My Account". At the top of the page you'll see ESA and ESAF Membership tab. This is the same tab you click if you are paying your ESA dues online. You will then select the appropriate membership (new, renewing, or Life Active) for Individual or chapter and follow the prompts. If you would like help with this, please don't hesitate to contact me.

- You can also join the Foundation by completing a paper form and sending in a check or credit card information. Be sure to use either the simple or regular contribution form, not the turnaround fund form.

- **Other ways to support the Foundation** include contributing to the general fund or to a designated fund such as the grant fund or an endowed scholarship fund. You can make these contributions online or by using the donation form available on the Indiana ESA website or the ESA Foundation website www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/ESAFoundation.
- To ensure you are using the most recent version of the form with ESA's new address on Harmony Road, please only use the forms downloaded from one of these locations.
- I want to remind everyone about the **Pathway Program**. This is an ongoing fundraiser where anyone (Foundation member or otherwise) can honor a special person (or multiple pavers to honor more than one person) with a gift to the Foundation. Members purchase virtual pavers and the donations help pave the way to a brighter future for our organization, those who follow in our path, and all we serve. This is a great way to honor someone in your chapter, your community, or your family. It could also be a great way to honor an outgoing President or other special chapter member milestone. Flyers are available from me today and are also available on both websites.
- **Nominations**
 - Nominations for ESAF Board of Directors are being accepted through October 1, 2023. Directors serve a three-year term. Courtney has placed the nomination form on the Indiana ESA website under the forms then donations or I can email one to you. You can also find this form on the ESA website by visiting the Foundation page.
 - Regarding the Foundation website, please don't hesitate to request direct links from me or reach out if you're having trouble finding a particular resource. I too find it difficult to find certain materials quickly on the Foundation page.
- **Follow up on Information shared at State Convention regarding the Indiana State Council/Judy and Morton Lester Foundation Scholarship.**
 - I wanted to follow up on some information I shared at State Convention as I have received some clarification. Every endowment is evaluated each year using a three-year rolling rate, to determine if there are adequate available (or spendable) funds to award the scholarship. This is because a

minimum amount must remain in the account per the endowment terms. Due to market losses and the three-year calculation, our fund did not have adequate funds to award a scholarship in 2024 and one will not be awarded in 2025. I expect to know sometime in October if there will be funds to award a scholarship to someone in the class of 2026.

- **I am issuing a challenge to my Indiana ESA Family.**

I am challenging the chapters who are not members of the Foundation to join.

I am also challenging all board members who are not members of the Foundation to join.

Lastly, I am challenging each of you to become a member of the foundation. Dues are \$40 annually and you'll be supporting the great work of the ESA Foundation.

- Hope for Heroes/Disaster Fund Cindy Norman

- Hello everyone, I am sorry I cannot be there today but I am with my family at my Aunt's funeral.
- I want to start by sharing the awards we received at IC in Kansas. I was very honored to accept the following awards on the state's behalf.
 - We received 2023-2024 Net Growth Just 1 More Award
 - Outstanding Achievement in the area of State's with Net Growth
 - 3rd Place for Membership Greatest Growth by Number
 - 3rd Place for Membership Greatest Growth by Percentage
- Next I want to encourage every chapter to do something for Hopes for Heros. I'm sure there is an event or something you can help with or donate to in each of our communities. There are all kinds of things you can check out on the internet also.
- The Disaster Fund is just for us. It is a way for ESA to help with unforeseen catastrophic events in our lives, such as a weather even, illness, hospital bill, etc. Up to \$8,000 is available. The forms are on the IC website and you send them directly to the IC Disaster Fund Chairman. You must fill out the form completely and must include copies of all bills you need help with. I hope every chapter can donate to this worthy cause.
- Now is the time to start watching for the outstanding member in your chapter to be nominated for Member of the Year. I would love to have a candidate from each of our chapters this year.

- Collegiate Maddie Kerr

- Megan Kelly and Hailey from Phi Alpha are here. I have sat with them and planned the year and discussed state meetings and dues with them.

- I would like to take this opportunity to update everyone on various philanthropic charities currently in progress:

- **Camp Riley**

I met with Melissa Sexton on August 30, 2024, to discuss possible opportunities for Camp Riley this year.

- 1) We discussed the possibility of an ESA Camp Riley Day in late April 2025. This would give the state an opportunity to visit Bradford Woods, take a tour which will include the finalized boat dock we sponsored, as well as a day of service by helping clean up the camp before campers arrive. Please note - we are not allowed to visit camp when campers are onsite. This is a rule governed by Indiana University.
- 2) Melisa shared a Wish List for Bradford Woods. I am providing the list with this report. Please note – highlighted items are items that would include naming rights. I would like to have members review the list and discuss future possibilities for funding a state project. Possibly send a poll to all chapters to determine interest for a group project.
- 3) There is an additional volunteer opportunity this year. Riley's Children's Foundation will be at the Christmas Gift and Hobby Show November 6-10. There is a need for 2 volunteers per shift. Training will be provided prior to the event. I will ask Courtney to add the link to sign up to the state website.
- 4) If any chapter is hosting a Riley event and would like information of your event to Riley's pages, social media, etc. Please go to the foundation's website to fill out the form. If you have questions, please contact me directly and I will help you as well.
- 5) Last, but certainly not least, ESA Indiana State Council will be inducted in the Riley Children's Foundation's Noble Society on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. The Noble Society is a prestigious new giving circle honoring those who have given \$1 million or more to Riley Children's Health. Congratulations Everyone!

- **Anna's Celebration of Life Foundation (ACOLF)**

- 1) Thank you to everyone who volunteered for the golf outing on August 15, 2024.
- 2) There will be another volunteer opportunity on Saturday, December 7, 2024, with Rock the Night for Special Needs. If you would like to volunteer, please visit their website.

3) Brandy Small has raffle tickets for sale. Tickets are \$100 each, with the chance to win \$10,000. The drawing will be on December 7, 2024. Do not need to be present to win.

- As always, if you have any questions or have ideas for upcoming events, please feel free to contact me.

• St Jude Megan Gray/Aphrodite Hudson

- St Jude Run/Walk is in Downtown Indianapolis
- 12/7/2024 Memphis Marathon

• Webmaster Courtney Ginder

- Forms are updated on the website.
- Reach out if you need a form updated

• Scrapbook Jaclyn Thomas

- Send your digital photos: please include event, names and details regarding the photo

• MARC Susan Waltz/Vivian Greeson

- The objectives of MARC
 - Promote closer relationships and fuller cooperation among the member states
 - Assist member states in reaching new goals and new heights in the growth and strengthening of ESA in the Midwest.
 - Serve as a means of promoting fellowship and unity
 - Offer a means of sharing mutual problems, concerns and goals
 - Providing further educational and leadership training for ESA members in the Midwest (www.esamarc.org/marc-history.html, 2024)
- As MARC representatives, we serve as delegates for Indiana at the annual MARC meeting being held on October 11-12, 2024 in St. Louis Missouri. We would love for you to join us and have some fun while you learn. In addition to fundraiser events and activities, there will also be some special speakers and entertainment such as Pam Sanfilippo, program manager for Museum Services and Interpretation at the Gateway Arch National Park. Marcy Bursac, founder of Forgotten Adoption Option. Tai Chi presentation. And Josh McVicar a master hypnotist.
- There are several bylaw and standing rule changes. Some are simply to clarify information, some are to replace pronouns, while others are to make changes. These later bylaws are the ones that I would like your input on since there will be 2 of us plus your ISC President who will be voting on these changes for you. For example, one bylaw change recommends

moving the deadline to submit bylaw changes to May 1 of each year instead of June 15 of each year. A standing rule change is to adjust the rotation for host states to hold the MARC conference from 2025-2033 .

- Amanda's theme is "Be Youtiful since 1985". Ways and means events held include Heads and Tails or rather Finish Line or Stall 50/50, a lottery board, a donation board, and the MARCet Place way and means tables.
- I have hotel and registration information with me so see me if interested or go to MARC website (esamarc.org) and click on More, Marc conference.

• Educational Makayla Greeson

- Please fill out the educational submissions by 5/15/2025
- Hello all, I'm sorry I couldn't be here today, I have been enjoying the educational reports that I have been getting. So far, I have only got 2 educational reports. I can't wait to read many more. I can't wait to hear from the other chapters. I have picked my Theme for this year; My Theme is Sparkle In ESA.
- If you have any questions, please reach out to me on email or text.

• Easter Seals Brandy Small

- 10/23/2024 at the Greenwood Moose Lodge we will have purse bingo for Easterseals
- 5:30pm doors open and 6:30pm start
- Oct 1 – Breakfast and Panel Discussion – I will be in attendance and also getting a tour of the facility.

Chapter Announcements and Raffles

New Business

- No reports

Old Business

- Future of ESA Group
 - We have had a few meetings thus far, we are not eliminating offices just allocating positions together were we can
 - Suggestions thus far
 - Collegiate joining with Membership
 - Scrapbook combined with Association of the Arts
 - Awards and Educational combined
 - There is a link with times and meeting links, if you have any questions reach out to Kary

- We will discuss again at Spring Conference
- Beta Phi-Rockville 11/20/2024 Thanksgiving event 11am-1pm
 - Includes turkey, noodles, mashed potatoes, drinks
 - Get your tickets!
 - To go's also available
- Raffle winners include:
 - Lynn Howley – raffle tree
 - Wendy Yaste won Beta Chi's raffle
 - Amanda Zahorsky won Chi Omicron's basket

Important Dates

- MARC Conference - October 11-12, 2025 Sheraton Westport Plaza, St. Louis, MO
- Spring Conference - March 15, 2025 Little Flower School, Indianapolis, IN
- State Convention - June 20-22, 2025 Hilton Garden Inn, Indianapolis, IN

Closing Thought

Elaine Chaney

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.

City	Chapter	President	Members	Total
Avon	Chi Omicron	1	54	55
Avon	Gamma Tau	-	-	-
Evansville	Delta Sigma	1	0	1
Fishers	Eta Pi	1	7	8
Ft. Wayne	Alpha Zeta	1	5	6
Huntington	Beta Chi	0	2	2
Indianapolis	Gamma Pi	1	12	13
Lafayette	Lambda Mu	1	0	1
Muncie (BSU)	Phi Alpha	0	1	1
North Manchester	Epsilon Sigma	1	1	2
Plainfield	Omega Chi	-	-	-
Pleasant Township	Alpha Delta	-	-	-
Rockville	Beta Phi	0	2	2
Seymour	Beta Kappa	-	-	0
Seymour	Delta Delta	0	2	2
Terre Haute	Delta Zeta	-	-	0
ELAN	Chi Omicron	0	1	1
TOTALS		7	80	87

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Epsilon Sigma Alpha – Indiana Fall
Conference

September 21, 2024 – American Legion
Roanoke IN

Hosted by Alpha Zeta

Shine Like a Diamond!!

