

Epsilon Sigma Alpha - Indiana State Council Fall Conference

September 27th, 2025

Our Sheperd Lutheran Church, Avon Indiana

9A-9:45A Registration and Ways & Means Shopping and Breakfast

9:55A Five-minute warning by Jaycee Peak

Call to Order by President Jennifer Morris at 10:00 AM.

Opening Ritual recited by all in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance and Opening Thought Judy Flannery - In my LAMP article, I mentioned that we want to reach a goal at the end of a journey. It does not always happen but we learn and gain experience. I believe many journeys are meant to be "local" ones. We stop to learn, care for our families, help our community, enjoy nature, and take time for ourselves. I read a quote from Grant Hill's mother, to paraphrase, "Don't be a passenger in life." For me ESA enables me to make these stops, even if I am moving slower these days.

Welcome and Introductions - Jennifer Morris, President.

Present at meeting: Jennifer Morris, Pam Vogel, Jaycee Peak, Jan Engel, Jennyfer Balkema, Jan Lantz, Brandy Small, Jenni Russ, Judy Flannery, Megan Gray, Maddie Kerr, Morgan Nichols, Courtney Ginder, Kary Soto, Aphrodite Hudson, Makayla Greeson, Carmen Oswalt

Absent: Elaine Chaney, Stacey Brummett, Mary Brewer

Welcome and Instructions - Jaycee Peak, President of Chi Omicron.

Guest Speaker- Janet Runge Darlage, Our Sheperd Lutheran Church Food Pantry

Janet talked about the food pantry and other services in conjunction with the food pantry that is housed at the church. They give families in need personal care items, food, paper goods as well as have an angel tree Christmas program for gifts, school supply drive in July and clothing drive in October. They partner with other food pantries, businesses that offer discounts and other local business for perishable donations (Starbucks for example). They serve 130 families on average on the first and third Saturdays of the month when the families can come and shop like a grocery store to get the items they want/need. The only items that the food pantry volunteers get for the families are the refrigerator or freezer items; volunteers pull those due to space in the kitchen area. During Covid they were one of two pantries who stayed open and they did a drive thru prepackaged bag.

Janet re-iterated that the stigma needs to change and that anyone can be food insecure, especially with government cuts.

Volunteer opportunities include helping the first and third Saturdays with the pantry times, sorting items (clothes, school supplies, etc.) for the drives, picking up food at businesses, donating items, saying prayers and a unique need is someone who is multi-lingual who can communicate with the families and help translate paper communications.

Janet thanked the membership for the donations and pictures were taken.

Roll Call – Jennyfer Balkema, Recording Secretary

There were 40 Members, 9 Presidents present to equal 49. Gamma Tau, Phi Alpha, Alpha Delta, and Beta Kappa were not in attendance.

Chi Omicron, Avon – 8-1-9

Delta Sigma Evansville – 1-1-2

Eta Pi Fishers- 8-1-9

Alpha Zeta Fort Wayne – 1-0-1

Beta Chi Huntington – 2-0-2

Gamma Pi Indianapolis – 12-1-13

Lambda Mu Lafayette – 0-1-1

Epsilon Sigma North Manchester – 0-1-1

Alpha Xi Online – 1-1-2

Beta Phi Rockville – 2-1-3

Delta Delta Seymour – 3-0-3

Delta Zeta Terre Haute – 2-1-3

PIP Introductions - Stood up, stated year and theme.

The following PIPs were present: Diane Binkerd, Pat Dodson, Jan Engel, Debbie Frazier, Alley Gary, Pam Grenard, Denise Hagerty, Lynn Howley, Cindy Norman, Carmen Oswalt, Jaycee Peak, Jan Rahn, Rozanne Robertson, Kary Soto, BJ Voll, Susan Waltz, Wendy Yaste, Deon Cahill

First Time Attendee and Pledges – Introduced by Pam, 1st VP

Sandy Williams – both a first-time attendee and pledge – invited by Serena. Pam asked if anyone had invited anyone to an ESA event to come up and get candy and reminded everyone that it is the ask that matters even if they say no.

Correspondence Jenni Russ -

Read Correspondence from Vivian and Makayla Greeson – thank you for the thoughts and love after the death of Vivian's husband and Makayla's dad.

Jennifer asked each of us to give a little information about the responsibilities of our respective offices. Corresponding Secretary is a unique position. There are some primary defined responsibilities, such as supporting the President by assisting with communications to the board and the membership, including the twice-monthly e-blasts and the dissemination of reminders and other materials to the board and chapter presidents. Beyond that, the scope is really determined by the President who appoints you and the sort of relationship she wishes you to have with one another and the membership.

This year, the role took on the added responsibility of gathering consent from members to opt-in to communications, and an ongoing aspect of this one-time project will be to remind chapter presidents to provide the opt-in information to new chapter members and notify me of any members who leave the chapter. I will also monitor any requests for change of information or requests to unsubscribe from communications. The subscriber information is updated regularly and provided to the Lamp Editor so she is also always using the most up-to-date contact list.

Jenni is very pleased with the percentage of members of active chapters who have opted in to state communications. There is 100% chapter Opt-In from Gamma Tau, Epsilon Sigma, Lambda Mu, and Delta Sigma. These chapters were given awards for that. We currently have 77% of all members subscribed. This does not include PIPs who are active in the auxiliary but not in an Indiana chapter and are subscribed, nor does it include MAL members, life active members not part of an active (dues-paying) Indiana chapter, or Elan members. Jenni states that it is understandable that not everyone wants to or can opt in but she wants everyone to know that option is available.

I'll be stationed at the tech support station during lunch today so please see me if:

- you aren't sure if you subscribed
- you believe you subscribed but did not receive the September 15 e-blast or your September LAMP
- you have any other questions about the e-blast or opt-in/subscriber process

- you have a chapter member who is not here today who has reported they are not receiving the messages, please have them contact me at the corresponding secretary email address.

Some of you have inquired whether the opt-in process will be an annual activity. It is not; it is a one-time process and your subscriber status will carry over year to year unless you quit, unsubscribe, or request a change to your subscribed email.

Jenni would love to include promotional information about your chapter's fundraising events in the e-blast so that other Indiana members may attend or support you. Please send the information to her at the corresponding secretary email address and include all information such as who members should contact, dates, times, locations, and any attachments you would like the membership to receive.

Jenni is repeatedly receiving a delivery failure notification for a user who subscribed with one email but whose email is being forwarded to a Gmail account with the address vmanmama1@gmail.com. If you think this might be you, please see her to figure out the issue.

Jenni taught the membership how to schedule a text and Jenn confirmed that an Android phone is a similar process. The directions are as follows:

- explain restricted to iMessage; explain how to know it's iMessage
- open existing thread or click new message icon
- add recipient name if not already present
- at bottom, next to message box, tap the plus sign > send later > select time (some defaults already there)
- enter your message
- click the send arrow at right
- explain what then see in the thread

Jenni closed with telling the membership to come to the tech table at lunch to get help with any tech needs.

IC Update Jennifer Morris and Lynn Howley –

Back in July 15 members from Indiana traveled to Cary North Carolina for International Convention. They had a great time visiting with each other and with friends from all over the country. Indiana is proud to have 2 International Council Officers now serving - Lynn Howley and Brenda Campbell - congratulations ladies. Indiana received two awards at IC convention - 3rd place for state monies raised for Easter seals and 1st place for State bulletin with 4 issues or less. Many thanks to everyone who donated money to Easter seals. It takes everyone's effort for the Lamp to be a success.

ESA Headquarters is now ESAMC - ESA Membership Corporation. They also re-wrote the ESA mission statement which was released in July. Our very own Monica Haddock was on the committee that worked to write the mission statement (Monica given Extra Mile award – a keychain in the shape of a bullet train). The Mission Statement can be used in place of the Opening or Closing Rituals. Please discuss with your chapter members if the Mission Statement will be included in your Chapter meetings.

There is now an ESA Alumni Virtual Chapter that is only open to ESA Collegiate Alumni. These members are encouraged to have membership in the chapter for 3 years post-graduation with the hope that will give them enough time and motivation to join a community chapter. Maddie Kerr, you are being recognized with the Extra Mile award today. You are not giving up on Phi Alpha and we are all along with you for the journey to get Phi Alpha back on its tracks and build up its steam. The ESAMC asked states to consider waiving dues for the collegiate chapters. This is something we will discuss if we get Phi Alpha back up and running. Jennifer and Maddie have a Teams meeting this week with a potential Phi Alpha member.

IC Convention will be held in Norfolk, VA in 2026, in Oregon in 2027 and in Oklahoma in 2028.

Margaret Kramer from Oklahoma will be the IC President in 2027/2028. Margaret is looking for people who want to serve on the IC Appointed Board. Some of the appointed board positions require a two-year commitment. Please contact Jennifer if you are interested in serving on the IC Appoint Board and she will connect you with Margaret.

We were reminded that membership starts with us to grow our organization. We were encouraged to lead by example. We are encouraged to organize themed events, crafts for a cause, pop-up meet and greet events to attract new members. Use Social media to our advantage highlighting new members and the great work that ESA does. Indiana Facebook was recently given a shout out for all the wonderful ways it is used to spread the work about ESA. Courtney Ginder, you are the next recipient of the Extra Mile Award as the person working tirelessly on the Indiana ESA Facebook page. Thank you!

There were big changes announced about St. Jude Children's Research Hospital fundraising efforts. A very big and bold campaign was announced - ESA has committed to raising \$5 million in 4 years in cold hard cash for the hospital. There will be a trip to the hospital campus for ESA in 2027. The My birthday to yours campaign was announced.

ESA Leadership will be held virtually this year and will be led by the IC board members. All members and nonmembers alike are welcome to attend the day long virtual seminar on 2/7/2026. The cost is \$50 per person. Pam and those serving as President in 2026/2027 will be attending an in-person President's Retreat in March 2026 in St. Charles Missouri. This has been added to our budget for the year.

The ESA Foundation annual report is available on the ESA Foundation tab of the ESA website. The Fundfest held at IC Convention in July raised \$15,025 for the ESA Foundation.

The address to mail coupons to our members of the military can be found on the ESA website. The address on the website is the correct address.

Pam will be attending the MARC Conference next month in my place. The MARC Conference conflicts with Hannah's Fall Break. Jennifer will be in West Palm Beach, Florida during the MARC Conference. Alley Gary and Brandy Small will be running for MARC office. Best of luck ladies and thank you for your willingness to serve MARC. In 2026 the MARC Conference will be held in Bloomington Minnesota.

Jennifer submitted articles for the IC newsletter and the ReMARCS. Please take a few minutes to read about all the Good Works, Good Times, and Good Friends that ESA has to offer.

IC President Celeste Webb is hosting a monthly zoom call with all the State Presidents. We had a call in August and this month - each call lasted an hour - there were about 26 people on each call. In August we heard from IC Treasurer Brenda Campbell about paying dues. Be sure to send your dues by 4/30/26 to Brenda. The form is on the ESA website. In 2025, 125 chapters did not pay annual dues to the International Council. The lack of dues payment has had an impact on the International Council.

ESA members can apply to the Disaster Fund to receive the maximum \$8000 assistance if the members' chapter dues, state dues and IC dues are paid current. The Disaster Fund is the one thing ESA does for each other. You never know when disaster will strike. The Disaster Fund is one more reason to pay your dues.

IC President Celeste Webb is planning a trip to Australia in April of 2026 to attend the ESA Convention 5/1 - 5/3 in Redcliff. With over 16 people going, the cost per person is about \$6000 plus \$60 convention registration but there is currently a waitlist of attendees.

Jennifer attended the Zoom call with State Presidents, ESAMC Staff and IC Board members. ESAMC is working on implementing a philanthropic tracking program. The program will eliminate the need to submit a report to the IC Board reflecting the philanthropic work done in each state. More details will be announced as they become available. The Awards luncheon at IC Convention will be rebranded as the Recognition Luncheon to reflect the revamped focus of the luncheon. The luncheon will focus on the impact the work of our membership has on our communities. The recognition will focus on service, leadership, and association. The awards will be based on nominations submitted and will be judged by an awards committee. The Association of the Arts will be done virtually as well, which saves room in your suitcase.

Jennifer will be leaving after lunch today to join Hannah for Senior Year Homecoming preparations and festivities. Pam will be conducting the afternoon portion of the

meeting. Please reach out to Jennifer before she leaves today or via email or cell if you need anything or have any questions.

Lynn Howley reported that Jennifer talked about much of the same things that she had planned to communicate. She explained the difference between ESA-IC and ESA-MC – the ESA MC owns the members and the IC owns the chapters. IC will be hosting leaderships now. The keynote speaker at the 2026 Leadership on 2/7/26 is the author of the Junk Drawer Leadership book. The IC Convention cost is going up but now Saturday Lunch is included in the registration cost. There is no more agape breakfast but lunch is hosted by St. Jude.

There will no longer be an ESA Fundfest; Thursday night will now be an ESA Foundation & IC Council Fundraiser that they are doing together.

The ESA-IC is working on building their own website separate from ESA-MC – Website items will not go away; they will just be easier to find on the new website.

The ESA-IC is reworking their procedure manual and they are looking for suggestions/ideas/wording for where the Disaster Fund money goes if ESA would ever happen to dissolve (if there were no more members). They are working to have this plan in place by putting it in a by-law so the disaster fund money is protected.

Budget and Financial report Jan Engel –

Hello, for those of you who might not know me I am Jan Engel from Delta Delta and thrilled to be serving as Treasurer.

Each of you have a little suitcase on your table, please take one. Jennifer's theme this year is a Journey For All. Today we are going on journey to learn more about ESA and being treasurer

Let's get ready for the trip and pack our bags.

T – Tax Fact, hopefully each chapter has already got theirs in. If you didn't, please get it in right away, they are critical for our non-profit status. Just imagine if you were traveling international, trip planned and what, you forgot to get your passport. Sometimes the pain in the butt details is just that, a pain in the butt but necessary! That's the tax fact.

R – Responsibility – you as treasurer are responsible for others money. Make sure you keep records and do things in a timely manner. When we take a trip, we are extra careful where we put our money, maybe hide it etc. As treasurer you are responsible, keep track always.

E – Effort, put the effort in – being treasurer takes time to keep it up, make the time as it will save you in the long run. A well-planned trip is usually a better one.

A – Ask me if you need help or have questions, I’m here and happy to help. I love seeing on Facebook when someone ask if anyone has pointers before going on a trip, ask others, learn from them. In your suitcase is my card with my contact information, call me.

S – Spreadsheets – I encourage you to utilize spreadsheets, if you need help sitting something up let me know, this will also help with the auditors and helps keep track of which project you are raising money for and how you are disbursing it. Kind of like your itinerary, definitely can help keep you focused.

U – Underwear – okay seeing if you are listening. Actually, sometimes you might do something wrong as treasurer, not intentionally but you might be criticized, just put on your big girl panties, learn from it, and move on, remember you are doing your best. My mom used to tell me and my sisters when you go out always wear your good underwear, just in case you have an accident! Funny thing what we remember, but then my mom was in a bad accident and she changed her tune, they cut them off and then you lose your good underwear. You don’t have to always wear your best, but you should always try your best.

R – Receipts – Write receipts. It will help you make sure what money you collected and what account it should go in. Man, when we get home from a trip, we go through our receipts and check our credit cards. Write receipts, it will help you find errors in your books or help you to eliminate them altogether.

E – Extra careful – pay close attention to deadlines, don’t be the reason your chapter doesn’t get award or recognition. Ask me about my trip with Judy Lester and missing the plane going to a MARC conference. I remember Judy hollering Hold the plane, hold the plane.

R – Reporting – Whatever your chapter guidelines are regarding submitting treasurer’s reports, do it! If you are not doing any treasurers reports, do them, one monthly and send to a minimum to the chapter officers, but preferably the entire chapter should get one. After we get home from a trip, we want to share our photos, the fun times etc. Share with your chapter sisters the financial information in a timely manner.

Being the treasurer is hard work. It takes commitment. But serving as your chapter treasurer and the state treasurer is one of the positions that you will learn a lot about how the state runs.

The 2025-2026 budget is on the state website under treasurer. Thank you, Courtney!

Current balances:

Checking Balance 8.2.25	23,315.61
August income	2,597.40
August Expenses	(3,635.04)
Checking account Balance as of 9.1	22,277.97
Savings Account:	5,799.87 \$5000 of which is in the CD as of 9/26

Thank you to everyone who has already stopped by the ISC Ways & Means table and purchased a fire blanket and supported the Indiana State Council. Please buy one – they make a great gift and really work! \$10 gets you a fire blanket and Holiday bag/tissue while supplies last.

Lastly, please keep Kayla and Beth White in your thoughts and even send some encouragement as Kayla is having some health issues. Jan gave their address with permission from Beth.

Recording Secretary Report Jenn Balkema –

Jennyfer reported that the corrections to the state convention meeting notes were corrected and sent to the membership. Jennyfer Balkema moved to accept the state convention meeting notes as corrected and sent out. BJ Voll, PIP, seconded the motion. No discussion. All those present voted to pass the motion. Jennyfer Balkema moved to dispense with the reading of the state convention board meeting notes as they were sent around to review and no corrections were needed. Alley Gary seconded the motion. Motions passed and meeting notes approved.

Webmaster Courtney Ginder –

Form Update

- St. Jude Contribution form for IN State Council Sr./Jr. St. Jude Coordinators: Now digital!
 - Send your check directly to ESAMC Headquarters/Turnaround Fund/ALSAC/St. Jude and report your money donated / hours raised as a chapter to ISC using digital google form.
 - More > Forms > Donations
 - Removes go-between of St. Jude Coordinators
 - Less likely to lose checks in the mail

Social Media

- Eta Pi has grown membership through social media and increased event attendance due to social media posting – social media really can work for you!
- Send me your events and photos so they can be shared online.
- Tech Help at the Tech Desk – see Courtney if you need any website assistance.

Scrapbook Update by Jenni Russ, Corresponding Secretary:

Jennifer's Scrapbook will be completed by her sister, Anne Marie. Photos will be collected as follows:

For collecting chapter photos, She'll be using google drive and each chapter has its own folder. Google drive is best for these because of the large capacity limits and the ease of sharing with Anne Marie. The link was in the email to the chapter presidents. There are tutorials and you can come to the tech help desk if you need help with this. Jenni is willing to work with chapters on how to share photos outside of Google but please reach out to her before doing so and no

printed pictures please.

For conferences, we are using Dropbox, which doesn't require a special app or account. It does have smaller volume limits, which is why it isn't suitable for the collection of chapter photos. Each folder will only be open during the meeting and for 2 weeks following the conference, which allows me to move the files offsite to free up more storage. If you miss that window, feel free to email Jenni and we can arrange a different way for you to share.

You can share photos from today's conference by scanning the QR code on the screen or on your program. The folder will accept photographs until October 11. Please be sure you are connected to Wi-Fi when uploading your photos to ensure they are uploaded at the highest resolution.

If you need any technical support with how to upload photos from today to Dropbox, or how to use Google Drive on your smartphone or other device, please see Jenni at the tech help station during lunch.

Hope for Heroes/Disaster Fund Report Kary Soto –

Kary gave some ideas of things to do for Hope for Heroes such as sending letters/packages, collecting books/cell phones to send, sending monetary donations to organizations, cutting coupons or volunteering at the local VA. There are some chapters that also collect coats and such for veterans in their areas. Kary has set up a volunteer opportunity with Wreaths Across America where people will meet at Indianapolis Cemetery to put wreaths on graves. The date is December 13th and she will send out more information closer to the event. You can also do this locally and she encouraged the membership to check out the website.

Disaster Fund information is on the IC website and that is also where you can apply for the Disaster Fund.

ESA Foundation Report Carmen Oswalt –

Carmen reported that everyone who gave me a dollar should have received two cards-TRUE and FALSE. If everyone who has the said cards would please stand up (if able) we will begin. The ones still standing will receive a prize, all others-THANK YOU from the Foundation! A quiz game was played while educating about the ESA Foundation. The questions covered how long the foundation has been around, the cost to join and maintain your membership, scholarship information, how many Indiana members and basic information about the foundation. Carmen encouraged every member to contact their local high schools and talk about the ESA Foundation Scholarships to help spread the word about them! The money raised from being able to play in the game will go towards the foundation.

Lamp Report Mary Brewer –

The fall issue of the lamp was published on September 1. I'm unaware of any problems receiving the newsletter. I want to thank everyone for submitting their articles and pictures on time.

The next deadline is November 1. Please remember that any chapter member can submit an article and this is highly encouraged!

Collegiate Report Maddie Kerr -

Earlier this month I reached out to three young ladies, as a group, who showed interest in ESA. I shared via email the requirements for this academic year, as well as that we were rebuilding.

The requirements are:

- Be open to helping with Fall Recruitment
- Participate in a St Jude Fundraiser, 1 Volunteer Project, and 1 Social Event
- Attend bi-weekly or monthly meetings
- Pay ESA Membership Dues

One young lady responded. She is a sophomore, so she has had some time to get settled into college life. Jennifer Morris and I are meeting virtually with her on Friday, October 3rd via Teams. The purpose of the meeting is to get to know her a little more, what made her interested in learning more about ESA and see if she is willing to lead the on-campus part of keeping Phi Alpha going.

Keep reaching out to your contacts (especially college-aged people) and spreading the good work that ESA does in our communities and our lives. If they are interested in learning more, ask if you can share their contact information with me.

Membership Report Pam Vogel –

Membership Update:

Currently, membership for Indiana is 223. 63 of these are MAL – Is there a way to get them back involved? It also still shows 6 for Phi Alpha.

October is Rush month for most chapters. If you have plans for upcoming events, please feel free to share. Some ideas that were mentioned by the membership at Fall Conference were Sisters & Salsa, Make a Pie Together and a Charcuterie Board party. Another idea was to invite potential members to Wreaths Across America or other philanthropic events.

In the September issue of The Lamp, I mentioned a new recruitment drive for Jennifer's theme "ESA – A Journey for All." I have created a golden "Ticket to Ride." If you would like to use this theme for your Rush activities, please feel free to do so. I can send a copy of the ticket or help in any way I can. Good luck to those holding activities.

There has been one nomination form received to date:

- Kary Soto, Education Director

State forms are open and anyone wishing to serve on the state board next year, please fill out the nomination form by December 31, 2025. I look forward to serving with you.

In October, I am planning to start a Leadership Book Club. The first book will be "Who Moved My Cheese" by Spencer Johnson. This is a very short book. The plan is to read during the month of October and discuss in November via Zoom. Email Pam if interested in joining.

This year's MARC Conference will be held October 10-11, in Brookfield, WI. Anyone who will be traveling to the conference, please contact me. I will start a chat to keep everyone informed. Also, we may plan a state dinner on Thursday or Friday night (before mixer). More details to come.

The following state forms are now available on Indiana's ESA website:

- State Office Interest Form
- State Officer Nomination Form – Due December 31, 2025'
- State Meeting Bid Form – Due December 31, 2025

Philanthropic Report Jaycee Peak –

- Philanthropic reporting form has been uploaded to the website, due May 15, 2026.
 - Chapter Philanthropic Chairs please be sure to set up your Chapter's Philanthropic Report on the ESA Indiana website.
 - Be sure to keep the Philanthropic report in Excel format- this report has been set up to calculate your monthly totals for your year-end final total due on May 15th.
- Philanthropic state project nomination form has been uploaded to the website, due January 1, 2026.
- Anna's Celebration of Life Foundation Updates
 - Many thanks to the members that volunteered at the Golf Outing held on August 21, 2025, at the Country Club of Indianapolis.
 - Next volunteer event, Rock the Night for Special Needs, to be held on Saturday, December 6, 2025, at The Atrium, Indianapolis.
 - Volunteers are needed for this event. (Event Set-Up / Registration/Check-In & Coat Check/Auction Check Out). You can sign up for this event at <https://acolf.org>
 - Rockin' Raffle tickets are available! \$100 each for a chance to win \$10,000!

Winner will be drawn on December 6th during ACOLF Rock the Night event! You do not need to be present to win.

For tickets, contact:

Judy Flannery redbrow1112@att.net -317-410-1795

Maddie Kerr mktylenda@gmail.com - 317-658-2611

Brandy Small brandysmall13@yahoo.com - 765-894-7417

Tickets will be available for purchase at fall conference and may be purchased until December 6th. Venmo, cash or check accepted.

Please remember that a chapter may purchase tickets and those dollars count towards your yearly donation totals!

- Camp Riley Updates

- We are excited to be partnering with Camp Riley on a 2-year commitment to update the Amphitheater State, Roofing, Lighting and Firepit, this is a \$40,000.00 project.
- As soon as I have the 2025 Wish List from Melissa Sexton, it will post on the Indiana ESA website.
- Visit the Riley Children's Foundation for fundraising events to host and/or volunteer at <https://rileykids.org>.
- Chapter organized events
 - As a reminder, please be sure to forward to me and Jenni Russ (ISC Corresponding Secretary) your events to be posted in the Indiana ESA eblasts sent out on the 1st and 15th of each month.
- State Camp Riley Fundraiser Event
 - My goal is to host a state Philanthropic event in the spring to "boost" our contribution funds for Camp Riley. As a member of Chi Omicron, we do not have a State Gambling License to hold an event. Thus, it would need to be held at a facility with a gambling license. Between the Philanthropic Committee Members (BJ Voll, Deb Frazier, and Denise Hagerty) and myself we will be brainstorming in hosting this event. When we have event information, we will share with the membership.

Parliamentarian Report Jan Lantz –

All documentation and bylaw changes from State Conference 2025 have been verified and placed into proper file and documentation. Jan is ready for the bylaw changes. Remember these are due December 31st – the form will be updated on the website. Jan also introduced her committee as she had not done that at State Convention. Please let her know if you have any questions.

Awards Report Elaine Chaney –

Sweet ESA Membership, sorry I am not with you today, but I know you are having an amazing time together. I am ecstatic to be part of the team that celebrates the work of ESA at our State Convention. I am so proud of all our members serving at the local, state, regional, and national levels. I especially want to thank my committee members: Cindy Norman and Brenda Campbell.

This year I want us all to consider "What ESA means to me."

- What motivates you to be in this organization?
- What pulls you to spend your Saturday with us today?
- How would you be different without ESA in your life?

Please spend a couple of minutes discussing at your table what ESA means to you and why you are here today.

Educational Report and Fun Game Brandy Small –

Reports : so far 5 chapters have submitted educational reports! What a great start to the journey! The variety of topics has been fun to read. I am looking forward to having more submissions and to learn more alongside you.

"Journey" can refer to the rock band, an American rock band famous for hits like "Don't Stop Believin'" and "Separate Ways". It can also mean a long trip or the process of traveling from one place to another. The term can also be used for a spiritual or personal path, or even a video game and journaling app.

Journey of personal growth or discovery, involving significant life changes or experiences. We all have our own story to share within our Journey in ESA. There are a multitude of reasons why you joined this organization, or what has been your driving force to remain. Friendships, volunteerism, belonging are just a few that come to mind. Let's ask ourselves... "what does my story include?"

We are all now going to embark on a journey together with a fun activity. With your table mates... let's put the pieces of the puzzle together. We all have different strengths and

weaknesses but can lean on each other for support. Some may excel with this task and others may struggle... stay encouraging and enjoy the journey together!

*Introduce the Activity – Saran Wrap Ball Game

*Pass out bags

*Read rules of game – Unwrap the Saran Wrap Ball using winter gloves, person next to you rolls the dice and when they get doubles pass the ball. When the group is done creating the puzzle with the pieces in the ball, yell “All Aboard.”

Association of Arts Report Morgan Nichols -

State board and chapter art project- Morgan’s thought is to inspire creativity, increase submissions to association of the arts, and bring the state together on one creative project to be given to Jennifer Morris as a gift at state convention next year. Morgan gave the chapters their bags with the tracks to decorate. If they are not at Fall Conference, she will give them to someone to pass on or contact the chapter directly. She encouraged creativity and teamwork for the chapters. She reported that the Association of the Arts google sheet is updated and ready to be filled out online.

Chaplain Report Judy Flannery –

To date Judy has sent 4 birthday cards, 1 Sympathy card, 8 anniversary cards and 4 thinking of you cards.

Judy will strive to send out the MARC and IC chaplain reports in a timely manner and respond to ESA members who request thoughts/prayers for events in their lives.

Jennifer’s symbol of a bullet train for her theme of journey implies speed and strength. As Judy ages and her body has slowed me down, she feels like this tramcar but still continuing the journey.

MARC Report Stacey Brummertt & Makayla Greeson –

The Marc Conference is coming up on October 10-11 at the Embassy Suites by Hilton in Brookfield Wisconsin. The Hotel has free Parking and right by the hotel, Free Breakfast. Registration for Marc Conference is September 30th. The Hotel Booking Deadline Has Passed, if you would still like a room please get ahold of Judy Baxter. On Friday Night they are going to have a Mixer party till the cows come home. On Saturday- Business meeting. Hope for Heroes Speaker (Guitars for Vets), Installation. Also going to have Costume Contest, Candidates skit, Trivia and Foundation Bingo. Conference attire is normally Business casual. Please come as you are and be comfortable. Costumes encouraged for Mixer. Wear your best for Installation.

Also, we have 2 very special Candidates for the marc Board

Parliamentarian- Brandy Small

Secretary- Alley Gary

Jan Lantz mentioned that she is trying to work on getting some guitars for the guitar collection for veterans as well. Please let Pam know if you will be going to MARC.

Lunch Blessing by Judy Flannery – From Psalm 104.

Eat Lunch, shop Ways and Means and visit the Tech Table if you have tech questions/needs.

ESA for St. Jude Report Aphrodite Hudson & Jenn Balkema

There are a lot of changes to the way St. Jude is reporting and registering events, hours, and donations. Aphrodite provided handouts with Frequently asked questions and instructions with pictures.

In my September LAMP article, I supplied details and links to help educate the membership on the changes for this year and the plans for St. Jude's newest commitment of \$5 million dollars over the next 4 years. I also mentioned that non-ALSAC events should be recorded in the VMS as well. After further research, I discovered that there is a separate website where St. Jude events need to be registered/created. This is where all non-ALSAC events can be recorded. I've put together a second step-by-step tutorial for this process. I will make sure digital copies of these tutorials are available to the membership.

Along with submission updates, the updated form was put on the state website this week for St. Jude donations. Please send St Jude money directly to ESA MC. In addition to submitting the form and checks to HQ for St. Jude, please also complete the form on the state website so I am aware of all the donations being submitted. This way I will be able to track the monies donated without the delay of mailing the checks a second time from the St. Jude coordinator to HQ.

Please continue to submit your philanthropic reports for St. Jude activities for state council reference.

On October 16th at 5-7pm, there is an opportunity for several volunteers to guide visitors and collect donations. Additionally, they need people to sign the floor of the St. Jude Dream Home Showplace located in Westfield, IN. Please reach out to our ALSAC rep, Stephanie Dillion, for more info. This invitation will be included in the email blast on 10/1, so you can get all the details and contact information in that message. I also posted the details in the IN ESA FB group.

There are a lot of changes and I've provided a lot of information. If you have questions, please reach out to Aphrodite or Jenn.

Easter seals Report Megan Gray –

Introducing "Change Wars"!!! Let's complete the sensory bench, 2 years before the contract date! We only owe \$619.51. Great Job to all! Don't forget that any Easter Seals money is due by March 31st!

There will be awards for most change both actual and percentage basis. Due at Spring conference; please bring it rolled. If we raise more than \$619.51, we will put it towards another project. Anything over \$500 pavers require a contract – some options are below. More information to come.

Some options are:

- Donations like we have done in the past, no specific direction on where the money is used.
- Lighting for the sensory garden - \$15k
- Pavers with ESA on them in Sensory Garden - \$500-\$10,000 range options
- Gaming Studio – Retro vibe... think Pac-man, Asteroids, Galage etc. - \$25k
- Deck with rotating exhibits just off the promenade pathway - \$25k
- Promenade pathway, could have our bench and name the whole path - \$50k
- Water Bubbler in Sensory Garden - \$75k

Easter Seals Crossroads, CEO, David –

David came to speak on some of the cuts that have been rumored. He reports that the Garden is still a plan and underway currently and will not be cut. He talked about the two outpatient clinics that were cut and their uses (Kids PT, OT, Speech therapy). He said that past reimbursement rates used to cover the cost to run these but now the reimbursement rates from Medicaid/care barely cover the cost of the salaries of the therapists and nothing else. He reported that the struggle financially with said outpatient facilities has been happening for about 5 years but current cuts and rate rule changes have made them impossible to keep open. He talked about the services that are still being provided such as autism support, respite care, in school therapy, OT, PT, speech therapy, summer camps, steels on wheels (learn to navigate wheelchairs), dance classes and providing specialty equipment for kids. The total number of kids impacted by these outpatient clinic cuts are 300 but they have been growing in areas like PTSD/trauma, veterans care, making elevators more accessible with foot controls, and they still

have needs like a new playground. He reassured the membership that Easter Seals crossroads is healthy and managing the government cuts just like other organizations.

He thanked the membership for all of their hard work with the bench and other support that ESA gives them and other Easter Seals facilities in the state. The membership asked and got all questions answered.

Announcements:

Floyd Greeson's service is 10/18 at Gracepoint Church in New Whiteland (visitation 11-1 and service at 1pm)

Chi Omicron is selling pies, sign up at their table.

Deon asked if the membership wanted to do a state convention book club again and everyone agreed – Deon will figure out a book and let everyone know.

Spring Conference is March 14th, 2026 in Roanoke hosted by Alpha Zeta Fort Wayne.

State Convention is June 12-14th, 2026 at the Hilton Garden Inn Indianapolis Airport hosted by Gamma Pi.

Raffles and Door Prizes Given out.

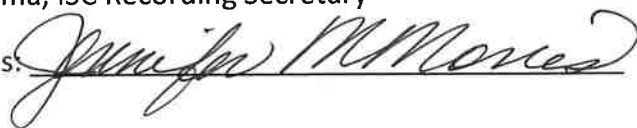
Closing Thought Judy Flannery, Chaplain – Thanks and safe travels.

Closing Ritual Recited by all present

Meeting Adjourned at 2:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Jennyfer Balkema, ISC Recording Secretary

Signature of ISC President, Jennifer Morris:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jennifer Morris", written over a horizontal line.