

**Virginia State Council of Epsilon Sigma Alpha  
Minutes of September 25, 2022 Meeting**

The VSC Meeting was called to order at 9:38 a.m. on September 25, 2022 at the Best Western Hotel & Conference Center, Waynesboro, Virginia by President Beverley Wright.

Beverley verified that all voting members had a voting card, gave instructions to silence cell phones, and led the attendees in the opening ritual.

Lou Ann Wyer gave the Chaplain's message and led us in prayer.

Beverley welcomed and thanked everyone for their attendance at the meeting. She noted that we will make a "full circle" this year with our Fall, Spring and Convention meetings. Beginning here in Waynesboro and ending at a new venue in Harrisonburg for convention. She emphasized the appreciation for leaving our families to attend the meeting and encouraged everyone to go back and let their members know it was worth the effort.

The Credentials Committee, Sue Danielson, reported:

Chapters on Roll:	16	Officer Votes:	7
Chapters Present:	15	Delegate Votes:	14
Members Present:	30	TOTAL VOTES:	21
Officers Present:	8		
DESA's:	0		
Guests:	0		
MALs:	0		
Total Attendance:	38		

(Full Report Filed)

A quorum was confirmed present, as according to the VSC Bylaws.

Beverley stated the Rules of the Meeting are a part of our Standing Rules and do not need to be read at each meeting.

Beverley introduced the Head Table, her Ring of Fire, followed by the Appointed Board and Special Committee members, her Sisters of the Round Table, followed by the VSC PPA members, her Circle of Trust. The VSC 22-23 Chapter Presidents were introduced as Beverley's Circle of Friends and recognized their leadership directly influences the greater membership.

Doris Hood reported that the minutes from the VSC 2022 Convention have not been approved pending additional corrections. The committee remains active and those minutes will be approved with committee dismissal at the Spring 2023 VSC meeting.

The Minutes Approval Committee for the VSC Fall Meeting are Sue Foy, Beta Kappa and Brenda Orebaugh, Gamma Pi.

Brenda Orebaugh read the following correspondence:

A thank you note was received from Mindy Boyd thanking the VSC for the gift from her year as President.

Financial Report: Stephanie Hess presented the financial report summarized below:

Checking Account

Balance Forwarded from 5/21/2022	\$2,982.77
Deposits (convention profit, dues)	1,513.64
Disbursements:	1,886.22
Balance on Hand	\$2,610.19

Savings Account

Balance Forwarded from 5/21/2022	\$4,829.65
Deposits (interest)	0.16
Balance on Hand	\$4,829.81

The report will be filed for audit.

The 2021-2022 Audit Committee consisting of Sandy Reed and Peggy Thompson reported the VSC Treasury account, VSC State Project account and the VSC 2022 State Convention account had all been reviewed and were found to be in order. Beverley thanked and dismissed the committee.

**Officer Reports**

**First Vice President, Priscilla Browning**, asked that anyone interested in serving in an elected or appointed office to please complete the "Willingness to Serve" form for the 23-24 year. She emphasized that the help is needed and if you have anxieties about the job; there are always others to assist you.

**Second Vice President, Marie LaDuke**, reminded us that October is ESA's recruitment month for new members. She gave a variety of ideas for party theme ideas and has placed a flyer in the chapter folders entitled Recipe for ESA Food and Friends Success which originated from ESA Headquarters. She encouraged chapters to join the ESA Membership Ideas page on Facebook and to post pictures of events on Social Media.

**Recording Secretary, Katrina Saunders**, had no report.

**Treasurer, Stephanie Hess**, - no additional report

**Parliamentarian, Nicole Lewis**, had no report.

**Jr. Past President, Mindy Boyd**, reported she will be asking for a \$5.00 donation per VSC member for the Disaster Fund. Any donations will be entered into a drawing at convention for cash money. She has included directions in the chapter folders for how to apply for funds from the ESA Disaster Fund. Headquarters has

changed the process to ensure HIPAA privacy guidelines are met. The forms now go directly to the IC Disaster Chair. Forms are also posted on the IC website and have been requested to be added to the VSC website.

**President, Beverley Wright**, reported on her experience at the ESA IC Convention. The message is one of building a community of commitment by bringing together Good Friends, Good Works and having Good Times. We are challenged to reboot ESA and become cheerleaders for our organization. She shared a funny B.J. Clark story and thanked us for allowing her to represent Virginia at the IC Convention.

### **General/Appointed Board Reports**

**Association of the Arts, Pam Cook** - no report.

**2022-2023 Audit Committee, Gaynell Krista** - no report

**Audio/Visual Tech(s), Nicole Lewis** reported that help is needed on set up and tear down of equipment. She also asked that AV needs be sent to her before the meeting and that she is available to help members learn any tech needs.

**Awards Director, Pat Holtsclaw** - no report

**Budget Committee, Jenny Brunelle** - no report

**Chaplain, Lou Ann Wyer**, reported she has been busy keeping everyone updated on news. She asked that you send her news of chapter members/families who need an extra boost of ESA love and prayer. Lou Ann also reminded that she is open to receiving happy news as well. Lou Ann has updated the VSC website, In Memoriam page.

**Credentials** report was filed by Sue Danielson.

**Disaster Fund** report was filed by Mindy Boyd.

**Easter Seals, Lou Ann Wyer** reported the following:

A check for \$300 was forwarded to the Turn Around Fund for Easter Seals from Beta Kappa who held a sale of ESA shirts and Rada cutlery. Here is the breakdown of the monies.

¾ sleeve ESA shirts sold: 21	Profits:	\$ 98.71
Short sleeve ESA shirts sold: 9	Profits & Donations:	\$112.79
Rada sales	Profits:	\$ 69.40
	Subtotal:	\$280.90
Donation check, Beta Kappa		\$ 19.10
Total received for Easter Turn Around Fund		\$300.00
Donation check		<u>\$ 50.00</u>
Total Received for Easter Seals 9/17/22:		\$350.00

Any chapter/individual donations for Easter Seals are greatly appreciated.

**Educational Director, Sheen Childress**, reported she has included the report form in Chapter Folders. The form includes her contact information. She reminded chapters that reports can be emailed by including the Chapter Name and “Educational” in the subject line. She has currently received a report from one chapter.

**ESA Foundation Counselor, Debbie Langfitt**, has filed a full report which includes information on the following: Bylaw and Rule Changes for 2022, Membership Dues increases and Virginia Scholarship Recipients. Debbie will be emailing Chapter Presidents to request help reaching out to High Schools and colleges in the area to encourage applicants to apply.

**ESA for St. Jude Coordinator, Susan Caldwell**, filed a full report which included the following:

**ALSAC ST. JUDE NEWS--**

- Domino’s is donating millions to expand from the Domino’s House to the Domino’s Village.
- ALSAC Global is expanding clinics and services in developing countries where only 1 in 5 children survive cancer.
- Children from Ukraine are being assisted by St. Jude either at the Memphis St. Jude Research Hospital or with the assistance of hospitals in other countries.

**CORRECTION TO ESA ST. JUDE TOTALS**

The ESA for St Jude totals for 2021-2022 revealed at the IC Convention in Indianapolis have been updated. The correct totals are \$14, 126, 508 raised or credited to ESA and \$341, 437, 448 Lifetime Cumulative Total

**AMAZON SMILE PROGRAM**

The 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, January 1-March 31, donation made by Amazon to St. Jude was \$692, 719.55. If you use Amazon for shopping choose the Amazon Smile program and designate St Jude as your charity.

If shopping online on your **computer** use Smile.amazon.com

If shopping using the Amazon **app** turn on AmazonSmile

**DREAM HOME CAMPAIGNS**

Many members who attended the IC Convention in Indianapolis were surprised by the lower ESA for St Jude totals. The totals were lower because there was no Richmond Dream Home in 2021 and the Hampton Roads Dream Home 2021 was given away before the IC dates for reporting which are June 1—May 31.

Thanks to Chapters and Individuals for all of their hard work on the Dream Home 2022 campaigns!

- Central Virginia Dream Home 2022
  - Details for 2022—Susan Caldwell reported for Shelby Hodges that 10,000 tickets were sold out in 6 days. Total raised was \$1,000,000. The credit to the chapters was \$499,900.
- Richmond Dream Home 2022
  - Details for 2022—**Marie LaDuke**
  - **The 2022 Richmond Dream Home sold out of 12,000 tickets about 5 days in advance of the Giveaway on June 8th. The numbers provided by ALSAC for the total gross raised was \$1,160,000. As a result, ESA is being credited with 50% of the total due to being in the Tier One category. Therefore, participating Richmond Chapters raised \$580,000 while putting in 538 philanthropic hours and driving 1749 miles. All of the prize winners were from the Richmond area and we understand the winner planned to move into the house built by StyleCraft Homes. We are looking forward to helping with the next Dream Home in 2023.**
- Hampton Roads Dream Home 2022
  - Details for 2022--**Lou Ann Wyer** reported that the tickets were sold out before the deadline and they staffed the Open Houses.

**ST. JUDE WALK/RUN WILLIAMSBURG**

- **Lou Ann Wyer** will give us an update on the project. Bev, Brenda, and Nicole worked the event. Lou Ann had a team that walked. \$722 was raised. ALSAC said they were welcomed with open arms and plan to be there next year.

### **\$50 FOR 50 St Jude PROJECT**

This project runs until the end of the year so there is still time to complete a project.

\$50 for 50 Virtual Zoom Celebration to be held on January 19, 2023

- New Projects include Beverley Scott is doing a wreath sale. Alpha Nu is raffling a table runner. Lou Ann reports that Ginny H works in an attorney's office and was able to raise \$92 with a swear jar. \$300 was raised during the Trivia Night contest which was held after Leadership.

### **FIND FORMS ON THE VSC WEBSITE**

- St. Jude Donation Form with required checkbox for \$50 for 50
- ESA for St. Jude Completed Event Form with required checkbox for \$50 for 50
- When a St. Jude project is completed, mail the Completed Event form to ESA Headquarters. Remember there is no Booked Event Form. Also, report the information to the VSC Philanthropic Director **Susan Graham** and to me.

### **PERSONAL FUNDRAISER**

- Go to stjude.org
- Click on Get Involved tab
- Choose DIY/Create Your Own Fundraiser for use to set up your fundraiser

**Finance Committee, P-Nut Schools** reported that she still has envelopes and will report the total at the end of the meeting. Total raised from Lucky Numbers was \$218.00.

**Historian, Lynn Keffer**, - no report.

**Hope for Heroes, Beverley Scott** reported the following:

Beverley asked members to stand as she read out representation of veterans, first responders and family members who were the same. She has included information on how TROOPONS work in chapter folders. Beverley introduced us to the Hope for Heroes Virginia Challenge and the Tunnels to Towers Foundation. She is challenging each chapter to contribute a year's worth of donations to this organization (\$132). She will be holding a drawing at convention where each individual or chapter that has donated will have the opportunity to be reimbursed. She is hoping to receive 20 yearly donations.

**Lamplighter Editor, Theresa Morris**, - no report.

**Nominating Committee, Priscilla Browning**, - no report.

**Philanthropic Director, Susan Graham**, - no report.

**PPA Leadership Chair, Brenda Bowersox**, reported the following:

We had 42 registered for Leadership yesterday with 40 attending. I hope that you all learned something and enjoyed the crafting section. Thanks so much for your participation in our discussion on the duties of the Philanthropic Director and Awards Chair for the new manual. I know that it can be a little boring but it is something that we need to accomplish. She reported that the PPA Bazaar made \$454.

**Scrapbook/Memory Book Keeper, Tammy James** - thanks everyone for sending photos. She will be creating Beverley's book and requests photos of philanthropic and fun events along with a group picture of each chapter.

**SERC Director, Brenda Bowersox**, - no report.

**Social Director, Sandy Reed**, encouraged chapters to strengthen sisterhood bonds by having fun in a non-structured environment. She reminded chapters that only a year end report filed by April 15th is needed as an entry for the Lisa Files Social Award.

**State Projects Director, Beth Sherron**, reported that we continue to support ASK Childhood Cancer Foundation and Special Love. She included information regarding the purpose of each organization. Beth reports that she will be raffling off a quilt at the VSC meeting in May of 2023. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20. She is asking chapters to sell tickets as the proceeds will be going to both organizations. Photos of the quilts and tickets have been placed in chapter folders.

**Webmaster, Lou Ann Wyer**, reports that the website has been updated with any content that has been provided. Forms will not include names of newly appointed chairs. That information can be accessed by referring to the Executive and Appointed Board pages on the website. She also asked that if errors are found on the website to please contact her directly.

**2023 VSC Convention Chair, Brenda Bowersox** - reported the following:

We hope everyone enjoyed their BBQ dinner last night. Thanks for participating in our convention fundraiser. Jimmy was glowing with all of your praise. The Convention Registration form will be sent to the website team to publish. We look forward to hosting you next May.

### **Unfinished Business**

Beverley presented an award from IC to Susan Caldwell for Outstanding ESA for St. Jude Coordinator. Beverley presented an award from IC to Lou Ann Wyer for First Place for Outstanding State Website.

Beverley reminded members that SERC will be held in Orlando on November 4th and 5th of 2022. A headcount showed that 9 members will be attending. The 2023 SERC Convention will be held in Savannah and the 2024 Convention will be held in Little Rock.

Tammy James and Lou Ann Wyer presented Mindy's memory book.

Marie LaDuke presented the VSC Histories to Mindy.

### **New Business**

A motion was moved that the election of SERC officers will be left to the discretion of the members in attendance at the SERC conference. This motion was carried with no opposition.

Beverley reported that the 2025 IC Convention will be hosted by SERC due to MARC deciding not to extend a bid. A committee has been formed to decide on a date and a location. A liaison is needed from Virginia. It was decided that Beverley would be our liaison.

### **Announcements**

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Half VSC Dues are due on or before October 1 – send to Stephanie Hess with the 2<sup>nd</sup> half due on or before April 1.
2. Next "Circle" will be published after SERC Conference in Orlando – November 7 deadline
3. VSC Spring Council Meeting – March 25, 2023 – Vision of Hope United Methodist Church, Harrisonburg, VA (more info to come in the Circle)
4. VSC Convention – May 19 - 21, 2023 – The Hotel Madison, Harrisonburg, VA (more info to come in the Circle)

5. "Lucky Numbers" will be drawn immediately following the Closing Ritual.
6. Beverley's home phone number may become inactive in December. I encourage everyone who needs to call me to start doing so on my cell number (in VSC yearbook) and please leave a message. If your phone number comes up and you do not leave a message, chances are very high you will end up on my blocked callers list.
7. Lynn Rightmyer – becoming a snowbird in The Villages (Ocala)
8. Theresa Morris Alpha Nu w/ Dot Harcum raffling off a table runner – drawing – raised \$250 – winner – Total Home Improvement
9. Next Lamplighter articles due before January 10

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 and was followed by the Closing Ritual.