

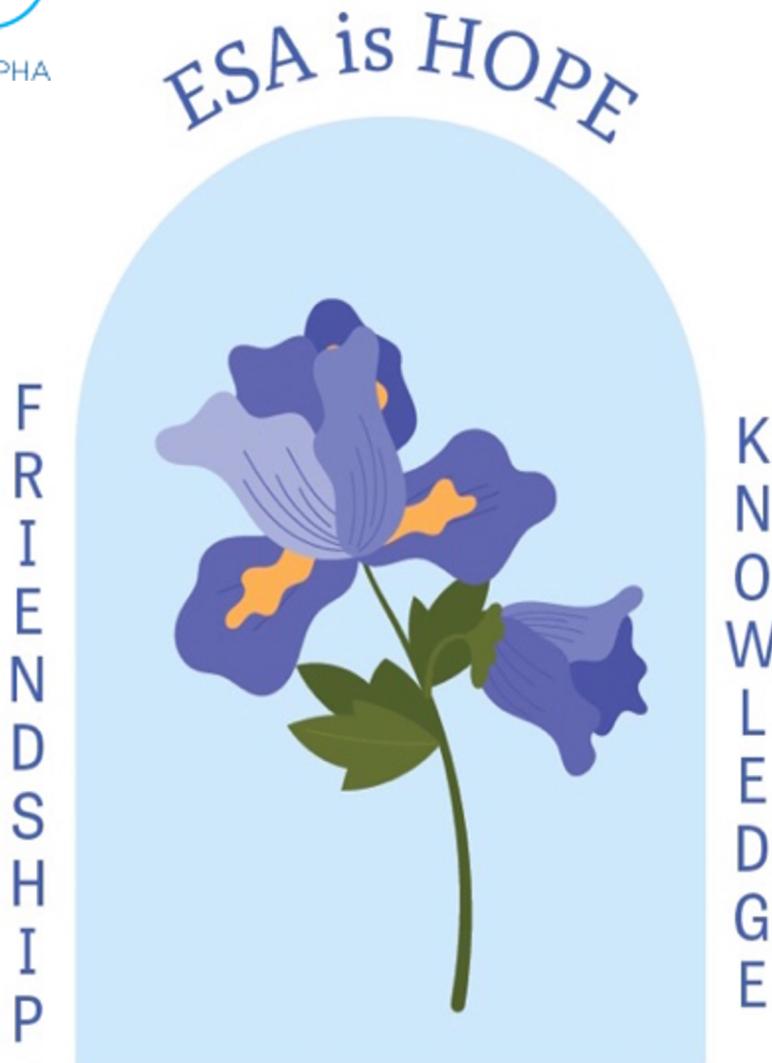
The Oregon Grapevine

Epsilon Sigma Alpha International



EPSILON SIGMA ALPHA

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2023-2024

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President's Message

Happiest of New Year to everyone, I hope you had a wonderful holiday season with family and friends.

Now for a rededication to ESA and all the wonderful things we can do for our communities, our world, and ourselves. I look forward to seeing you all at Winter Meeting, in Creswell, and hearing about all the great Power of Us activities everyone has held. Remember the Power of Us is continuing in 2024 until May 31, 2024. So keep submitting your forms and showing how powerful Oregon State ESA members support Education, Service, and Association.

Membership growth is another area we can make a difference in 2024. Just a reminder there is still funds available to pay a membership for the first year for new or returning members. It is so much easier and rewarding for Chapters when you have more members with new and exciting ideas. I know several chapters are working hard to increase their membership, thank you for your efforts.

I **HOPE** everyone has State Convention on your calendar and are making plans to register soon. I know Central District is working hard to have a great convention but we need everyone there to make it special. Remember it is April 19-21 at Eagle Crest Resort, Redmond. I can't wait to renew **FRIENDSHIPS** and celebrate all the **KNOWLEDGE** everyone has acquired this year.

Please take care of yourselves and your loved ones. Sending hugs and prayers to our members who are facing difficult times.

Thank you for all you do for ESA, I am blessed to be your President.

Connie

Jr Past President/Disaster Chair

Happy New Year!!!

Wishing you all health and happiness in 2024!

I would love to outdo our previous 'Disaster Fund' fundraising efforts at Winter Meeting. I will be raffling off a project bag. I have the tickets and you can start buying now by mailing me your money. Each ticket is \$5.00 or you can purchase six tickets for \$20.00! The winning ticket will be drawn at the end of the meeting on Sunday. This time, I will have the bag with me to hand to the lucky winner. A picture of the project in progress is below right.

As I read the Chaplain's reports, it saddens me to see how many members and members' families have suffered loss of life, undergone major surgeries, and faced serious medical issues. I wonder how many members have had to apply to the ESA Disaster Fund for financial help. Thankfully, it is there for ESA members in time of need. Therefore, it is important to continue donating to this Fund. Every penny counts, so continue to collect coins at your meetings. Just remember that April 1st is the deadline for sending contributions and it will be here before we know it. Please write checks to "ESA Disaster Fund" and send them to me at 83360 S. Cove Drive, Florence, OR 97439. Thank you for all of your donations, whether from individual members or chapters. Your generosity is very much appreciated!

I truly am looking forward to seeing you all again at Winter Meeting.

In the meantime, stay well, stay safe, and let's count our blessings.

Dragon Hugs, Julie



**Executive
Senior
Soul
Sisters**



Recording Secretary

I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Hope you had a great holiday season and made new memories with your family and friends.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at Winter meeting, sounds like a lot of fun, plus a super great meeting.

If you are doing a report, please bring a written one also, it is so helpful to be able to check if I have a question.

Thank you for your help.
Be safe and take care.

HUGS,
Barb





General
Giggles



Scholarship Season – It is Crunch time!

The **scholarship application window closes at 11:00 PM MST on February 1st**. Now is the time that we need you to contact your friends, family, neighbors, the checkout people in the grocery store, the tellers at the bank (you get the idea) and let them know that there are scholarships available to college students of any age, but they need to act fast! The Word document template for business cards that can be updated with your information and printed on card stock at home is located on the Foundation Counselor page of the ESA

website: https://epsilonsigmaalpha.org/episilonsigmaalpha/media/ESA_Foundation/Scholarships%20and%20Grants/ESA%20Foundation/State%20Counselor%20Page/12-Business-card-with-QR-code.docx.

So far, these two endowments have not received any scholarship applications: LaVerne 'Bun' Young and Lynn and Rich Hughes. It is truly a shame that these scholarships go unfilled when there are students in our communities that could benefit.

As well as the following for any student:

BMW Hope Scholarship

McConnell Family Scholarship

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Cancer Survivor Scholarship

Winger / Leyes Scholarship

Any assistance in spreading the word about available scholarships by members of your state would be greatly appreciated

It is once again time for the Fantasy event. This year the Foundation will again be sending invites via email and a paper mailing. The emails are expected to be sent in February 2024. Look for yours coming soon.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Winter meeting.

Chris York, ESAF State Counselor

General Giggles



Awards

I know you have been busy all year volunteering and raising funds for your programs and working on some individual crafts. We want to recognize your outstanding work and accomplishments at the annual state convention in April 2024. To submit a team accomplishment or individual project for consideration of a state award, contact your chapter president to review the rules and obtain a form or go to esa.oregon.org.

Margie Creacey,



Flag Update

If you have one of the flags listed below, please bring that to Winter Meeting. Sandy Diess will be taking these home with her to get pictures without shadows, folds, etc. Carolyn will then print these onto fabric sheets for the new smaller flags.

ESA Banner	Central District
ESA Foundation.	Douglas District
All Faiths Flag.	Eastern District
St Jude	Northwest District
Easter Seals	Southern District
Western States.	Willamette Valley

If you missed the full Flag Proposal in Nov's issue, it's on page 15

Joy Serkowney & Carolyn Warren

Historian

The year is moving fast! It doesn't seem possible that Winter Meeting is coming up soon. I hope to put together a lovely year of memories for our President, Connie. However, I will need some help from chapters and other sisters in the state. I would like to have a current picture of your chapter members. I would also like a copy of special pictures you are taking that include Connie such as her visits to your meetings, districts, etc.

If you have special activities or fundraisers, etc. that you would like to see included in Connie's year of memories, please consider emailing, texting or sending me a copy.

I will be keeping track of all members sending me pictures and they will be included in a special drawing at convention.

I am excited to see you all again soon and thanks in advance for your help!

Debbie Sanguras

General Giggles



Chaplain

Remembering those who have passed:

- Carol Hockenbarger, Eta Kappa, Ca. former Oregon State Member.
- Mary Eklund, Past Oregon State President and member of Theta Beta, Springfield.
- Ann Choate, Beta Omicron, Burns
- Philip Shimer, brother in law of Lori Shimer, Alpha Zeta, Eugene
- John Egan, brother in law of Jeri Fine, Alpha Omicron, Madras
- Army Chief Warrant Officer Carlen L. Rhodes, father of Carolyn Warren, Alpha Zeta, Eugene
- Reg Holden, husband of Jill, Delta Xi, Portland
- Dave Wiles, husband of Kay Wiles, Alpha Omicron, Madras
- Jim Lushina, husband of Pearl, Alpha Upsilon, Hillsboro

Prayers and Healing Thoughts to:

- Alice Chisholm, Alpha Upsilon, Hillsboro, cancer surgery
- Ardyce Moore, Omicron Omega, Portland, recovering from auto accident
- Chris Dole, Delta Xi, Portland recovering from second knee surgery
- Jo Keller (MAL) daughter Connie recovering from brain surgery.

"Let your eyes look straight ahead and your glance be directly forward"

Proverbs 4:25

Pat Stupur



Philanthropic

Hopefully, all of you have been keeping close track of all those hours and monies for all you have been doing this year. This is one of the most important activities we do as an organization to keep our status as a not-for-profit organization. It is important that each chapter gets these reports to me by April 1st. I am always impressed looking at totals and projects from chapters. It should be a time to celebrate the great things we do. I'm thinking of trying to compile some sort of summary of chapter activities to share so that not only can we all celebrate each others accomplishments, but perhaps get an idea that would work for our chapter.

I look forward to seeing everyone soon at Winter Meeting.

Marsha Klosterman

Educational

Hopefully, by now, your chapter educational programs are in full swing and all your members are participating. Remember, your reports don't have to be long or fancy but it is important that the members learn something from them.

Since we are now starting to get close to the end of our sorority year, be sure to complete your programs and have your reports sent to me by the end of March (they must be postmarked by April 1). I am really looking forward to seeing what you all have experienced this year. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 541-688-1667 or joyserkowney@peak.org.

Joy Serkowney



OREGON STATE CONVENTION NEWS!!!!

Eagle Crest is accepting reservations now.

If committee chairs need anything at State Convention, please notify Sharon Comingore at: sharoncom64@gmail.com

General Giggles



Winter Meeting

Hello Everybody

Alpha Zeta is pleased to host Winter Meeting for Connie and we are going to offer a Craft Fair event on Saturday night. This will be in conjunction with a fundraiser/workshop/educational.

For all of our crafty members - there will be tables set up where you can sell your craft items

For all of our not as crafty members - this is your opportunity to purchase those craft items

A percentage of the sales will go towards one of our philanthropic endeavors.

There will be a break in the evening (schedule is TBD) for a fun workshop/educational event.

Any member wishing to sale items - please contact Carolyn Warren ciwarren@charter.net even if you've already signed up. I forget to keep a listing. 😊

Carolyn, Joy & Su

Credentials

Hi everyone!

I just want to remind all of you that if you are unable to attend the Winter Meeting, be sure you complete a Proxy Form and have someone in your chapter bring it to the meeting or mail it me. These forms are found in the third section of the President's book (State Forms and Information).

Without this completed form, you will not have a vote in any business items that are discussed. Make your voice heard – VOTE!!!

Joy Serkowney

General Giggles



Friendly Reminders

Association of the Arts

Please be working on projects for Association of the Arts. Entry deadline is April 1st. Send the entry form to me at 345 E. 46th Ave. Eugene 97405

Becky Diehnel



Easter Seals

The Bloomfest Ball is March 1, 2024-- 6 to 9pm
Tickets \$125.00 person or Table for 8 \$1,000.00.

Bloomfest week is April 8-12, 2024

JoAnne Barber

ESAFoundation

Please bring any donations to the ESAFoundation purse to Winter Meeting.

Chris York



Flag Committee

Please bring your flag so that the Flag Project can proceed with the approved size reduction project.

Delta Xi, Portland

November began with several of our members traveling to Longview for their annual Doll Tea. Always good food and being served by the men is always a plus. Nice to visit with our Washington sisters and we came home with handmade favors.

On the 3rd we prepared our lunch for the HIV Day Center. They are always appreciative and enjoy the home-made meals. Our Trillium Bingo followed on the 10th at the Milwaukie Elks Lodge. We were able to donate \$500.00 to Trillium and in addition 50 plus gift cards were taken off the tree for Christmas gifts. And lucky Kathy Darnielle won the 50/50.

December began with An Olive Oil Tasting Party at the home of Kathy State offered by I.C. It included oils and vinegars which consisted of 4 kinds of oil (lemon, garlic, koroneiki and sweet cream butter) and 4 kinds of balsamic vinegars. Also served were crackers, cheese and an assortment of wine. On December 12th we gathered for our Christmas Party and exchange of Secret Pal gifts. Always good food to share 😊😊😊😊.

January brought several members cooking a dinner for the Banfield Shelter Home. Some changes have been made regarding the preparation of the food for Transition Projects and we will have to make some adjustments, but we don't want to give up preparing food for these shelters. And to top the month off Delta Xi celebrated its 66th Birthday. A great celebration with cake and champagne and sparkling apple juice. HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!!!!!!

Pat Stupur

Chapter Champions



..... it's the end of 2023 and I'm beginning another new year, I'm well into 78 years old, getting worn out, and I still have so many unanswered questions!

I still haven't found out who let the dogs out...where's the beef...how to get to Sesame Street... why Dora doesn't just use Google Maps...why all flavors of Fruit Loops taste exactly the same, or how many licks it takes to get to the center of a Tootsie pop.....why eggs are packaged in a flimsy carton, but batteries are secured in plastic that's tough as nails... why "abbreviated" is such a long word, or why there is a D in 'fridge' but not in refrigerator... why lemon juice is made with artificial flavor yet dish washing liquid is made with real lemons... why they sterilize the needle for lethal injections... and why you have to "put your two cents in" but it's only a "penny for your thoughts" (*where's that extra penny going??*)... why The Alphabet Song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune... why you just tried to sing those two previous songs... what exactly Victoria's secret is... and where's Waldo?...

Can you hear me now?...and do you really think I am this witty?? I actually got this from a friend, who stole it from her brother's girlfriend's uncle's cousin who lived next door to an old classmate's mailman.

Delta Xi, Portland, con't.



Olive Oil Party
Kathy Danielle, Karen McNeil, Kathy State



Christmas Party Chris York



Happy Birthday Delta Xi

Kathy Danielle won 50/50 at Trillium bingo



Doll Tea at Longview – L to R: Joanne Barber, Kathy State, Kathy Danielle, Mary Lambert, Pat Stupur, Donna Cassidy, Karen McNeil, Sandy Bowen



Delta Kappa, Hood River

We have been busy getting ready for the holidays. We went shopping for our needy Christmas family. It was a family with 6 boys, 3 of them being triplets. Boy, they really needed the help. We had fun shopping and wrapping all the presents.

We then had our Christmas party. We started having a very nice dinner at Stonehedge Gardens and ended up at Tracy's house for dessert and a gift exchange. We had 4 guests in attendance and 2 of them will be joining our group. YAY! We were very excited about that. We are now gearing up for our Bingo fundraiser on March 9th, so be sure to mark your calendars.

Penny Phelps

Christmas Party dessert time



Gifts for needy family





Chapter Champions

Alpha Zeta, Eugene

Well, winter has arrived and I have spent the last couple of days wrapped in a blanket with a cup of hot coffee and a good book. 2023 is in our rearview mirrors and I know that many of us say ‘Good Riddance!’ Here’s to 2024 and good things to come.

We have been busy since last we met. Primarily, we have a new member. We are looking forward to working with and getting to know Carol Szymazyk. Hopefully you can all meet her at Winter Meeting.

Secondly, we have been working hard on our educationals, the most recent being a presentation from Amy Johnston, Executive Director, of Oregon Cancer Foundation. We learned of all the ways that the Foundation helps cancer patients. Thank you to Mona Ayers for this session. We have also visited the headquarters of Sleep in Heavenly Peace which is an organization that provides beds to children who do not have beds in which to sleep. Melissa Gilliam arranged for the chapter to visit the Native American Longhouse on Lane Community College campus. The speaker who is a professor at LCC is Native American and he regaled us with stories about his culture and the difficulties endured by his people. We are grateful to the individuals who have taken their time to educate us on various topics.

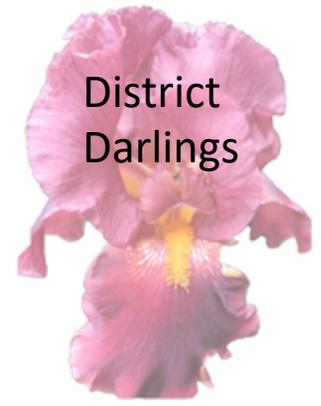
We had a wonderful Christmas party at Sandy Diess’ home starting with visiting and a delicious lunch of soups, salads, finger food and an array of desserts. We exchanged Secret Sister presents. Starting last year, we decided that most of us do not need any more knick knacks to dust so we each wrote a check to the charity designated by one’s secret sister. This has been an experiment and seems to be working out well.

We have been the recipient of a \$300.00 check from CHI group which is a charitable organization of Roseburg Hospital. Hosea Youth Services in Eugene has been designated to receive said funds.

Due to the growing size of our chapter, we are now meeting at the Roadhouse at the Gateway Shopping Center in Springfield. This suits our purposes well at the present time.

We meet again on February 14, 2024. Happy Valentine’s Day to all!!

Lani Shimer



District Darlings

Willamette Valley District

The WVDC District meeting will be held at the closing of Winter Meeting on Sunday. Alpha Zeta is hosting. We will be discussing Bylaw changes, and voting on new officers, with installation at our June meeting. Where the meeting will be held at Winter Meeting will be announced. All are invited to come join us. We tend to be a noisy and fun group 😊.

Central District

Madras and Burns chapters are excited about the up-coming Oregon State Convention 'ESA IS HOPE, FRIENDSHIP, KNOWLEDGE', to be held at **Eagle Crest Resort in Redmond, Oregon, April 19-21, 2024**. We hope you're looking forward to it too. Please think about registering early. Also, keep in mind the late fee AFTER March 20, 2024, is \$10.00. When reserving your room, please mention **ESA State Convention**. We're looking forward to a great time at Eagle Crest.

We're hoping for some good weather to get us to Winter Meeting. See you in Creswell!

Nancy Reid

Winter Meeting Packing List

We will have 2 Guest Speakers at Winter Meeting – one from Hosea Youth Services that assists homeless youth and Easter Seals. Both organizations have presented wish lists of much needed items.

Hosea House

Sleeping Bags
Backpacks
Little shampoos
Small toiletry items (hotel size)
Socks, Underwear

Easter Seals

Wet Wipes
Dental Floss
Portable Hand Warmers
Q-tips
Shoe Laces
Matches



ESA Oregon State Winter Meeting
February 17-18
Emerald Valley Golf & Resort
Creswell, OR

9 to 11am -- Registration
11:30 am -- Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance - Opening Ritual
Thought for the Day - Pat Stupur
Welcome - Carolyn, Willamette Valley

1:00 LUNCH

Officer reports
Old Business:

Flag reduction report - Carolyn Warren, Joy Serkowney
Association of the Arts
Convention recommendation - discussion
Other

New Business:

The Power Of Us - Sharing by Chapters
Alpha Zeta presentation -- Su McDonell
Workshop -- the storytelling of ESA
Other

4 pm. GAVEL MEETING

6 pm DINNER

7 pm - Craft Fair -- Easter Seals Fundraising -- games

Sunday - February 18th

9:00 AM Call to order

Appointed Board Reports- **please give Barb Moss a copy of your written report.**

District Reports -- Eastern, Central, CDS (Coast, Douglas, Southern), Northwest, Willamette Valley

Announcements

Raffle -

Convention - April 19 - 21, 2024 Eagle Crest, Redmond

Adjourned by noon

Flag Proposal

Joy Serkowney and I proposed at Convention 2023 that Oregon State Council research the prospect of replacing the following flags from the standard size to a smaller size.

The flags to be replaced are:

ESA Banner	Central District
ESA Foundation	Douglas District
All Faiths Flag	Eastern District
St Jude	Northwest District
Easter Seals	Southern District
Western States	Willamette Valley District

The Flag Ceremony Chair would be responsible for all flags thereby eliminating the stress, worry and hassle of trying to find flags, flag stands and remembering who had it last.

Questions, comments from the assembly:

1. What do we do with the old flags?
2. If we realign the districts and change the names, now is a good time to do this.
3. What size would the new smaller flags be?

In researching this, Joy and I have the following to report:

- Most printing companies have set supply catalogs that they use, in looking through those none offer reduced size flags of any size.
- Printing costs vary however all are per color with additional fee for digitalizing the picture then a set-up fee per unique print job – per flag.
 - Charge per color plus digitalizing fee range between \$19-\$24, this would total \$234 plus the set-up fee per flag.

What we are suggesting is to:

1. Ask everybody currently with the listed flags to bring to Winter Meeting.
2. Sandy Diess to take the flags and photograph them.
3. Print the flags ourselves on standard fabric printing sheets of 8 ½ x 11". the fabric print sheets are 30 for \$35.02, which is \$1.17 each.
4. The cost of ink (\$37.99 for 2 black and 3 color cartridges), if completely used would be \$1.58 per flag. This cost would be pro-rated per flag of the ink used.
5. All flags can be double sided, sewn together and attached to a dowel rod.
6. Find a nice person to make a curved display stand – either one for all 12 flags or 2 for 6 flags each.
7. Cost of double-sided flags:

fabric sheet	\$1.17 x 2 = \$2.34
Ink	\$1.58 x 2 = \$3.16
Total per flag	\$5.50 plus cost of dowel rod & stand

Answers to questions from the assembly:

1. What do we do with the old flags? They can be either kept by the members of the district or turned into the Archives.
2. If we realign the districts and change the names, now is a good time to do this.
3. What size would the new smaller flags be? 8 ½ x 11"



**Good Friends – Good Times
Winter Meeting**

February 16-17, 2024
The Emerald Valley Golf &
Resort Event Center
600 Dale Kuni Road Creswell, OR 97426

Registration: \$90.00 per person
includes Sat. Lunch & Dinner w/ Coffee/Tea Service on Sunday
Registration Deadline: January 15, 2024



We will be sleeping at the
Creswell Comfort Inn and Suites
247 Melton Road in Creswell...

1 King, - \$162.00 + tax & \$10 per extra person
2 Q - \$162.00 + tax & \$10 per extra person

There are 2 single Ks, 13 dbl Qs reserved for us until Jan. 15, 2024
The price is good for Fri. Feb. 15, if you come in early

Call 541-895-4025 for reservations and please use 'Alpha Zeta Chapter of ESA Int'l.' for the group
rate quoted
48 hour cancellation notice will apply

Name _____ Chapter Name & # _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

Exec Board _____ General Board _____ Gavel _____ Guest _____

Make checks payable to: Alpha Zeta Chapter \$ _____ Enclosed

Mail Registration to: Joy Serkowney 4055 Royal Ave #6 Eugene OR 97402

Questions? Call Joy at 541-688-1667 or Carolyn 5451-207-8064



OREGON STATE CONVENTION

ESA IS HOPE FRIENDSHIP KNOWLEDGE
APRIL 19-21, 2024
EAGLE CREST RESORT, REDMOND OREGON

Reservation Phone # 855-682-4786 - Mention ESA State Convention

Room Rates: DBL Queen \$159 plus tax/1BDR Suite \$179 plus tax
Rooms for ESA Convention held until 3-20-24

Registration \$160.00 - Late Fee After March 20, 2024 Is \$10.00

Send Registration to: Central Oregon District, c/o Virginia Runge, 334 NE B St,
Madras, Oregon 97741

Questions: Call Sharon Comingore, 541-475-2863 or e-mail:
sharoncom64@gmail.com

REGISTRATION

Name: _____ Chapter# _____

Email: _____ Phone # _____

Banquet Menu: Please circle choice; PORK LOIN; ROSEMARY
CHICKEN; VEGAN STIR FRIED VEGETABLES

Guests for Banquet - \$49.00 ea. -Circle choice: PORK LOIN #__;
ROSEMARY CHICKEN #__; VEGAN STIR FRIED VEGETABLES #__