The Oregon Grapevine

Epsilon Sigma Alpha International

Volume: 77
Issue: 5
Date: Mar 2024

President's Message	2	Bloomfest Ball 2024	15
Executive Soul Sisters	3	Convention Registration	18
General Giggles	5	Convention Packing List	19
Chapter Champions	10	Convention Friday Agenda	20
District Darlings	14	2024-205 Candidates	21

President's Message

Where has the time gone. I can not believe convention is right around the corner and the year will soon be over.

Huge thank you to Carolyn and Joy, and all the Willamette Valley members for a fun, fabulous, fiesta at Winter Meeting. What a great view, a warm fire place, and lots of room. Which we needed to show off all the super items members brought to sell for Easter Seals. How exciting to see how innovative and ingenious our members are. Of course, those who came to buy are fabulous too. Thank you to Chris York and Melissa Gilliam for sharing how their chapters are working on the Power of Us campaign.

Now with Convention fast approaching and end of our year sneaking up on us please continue to make installing new members and inviting prospective members to all your events a priority. It is difficult to support all of our charities and projects without active members.

If you have not registered for convention, please take the time TODAY and help Central District plan for a great convention. I have included a preview agenda for Friday so you know what to expect. Can't wait to see you all.

It has been my privilege and honor to serve as your President this year, each of you have made my year fun, memorable, and rewarding. A huge thank to my Executive Board, and to all the committee chairman, you made my job so much easier with all you help and encouragement.

My HOPE is each of you found a little KNOWLEDGE and lots of FRIENDSHIPS in this year. You have made it a joy to be part of ESA of Oregon.

Connie

1st Vice President / President Elect

It was so nice to see everyone at Winter Meeting. I had finished chemo and was ready to see my ESA sisters.

I know you are all working towards increasing membership. Rember that Oregon State Council still has a program to reimburse dues for membership. This includes both new and reinstated members.
Be sure to check with Kari Engdahl, Treasurer, as reimbursements are limited.

I am still looking for chairman to fill my Appointed Board and Standing Committees for 2024-2025.

They include the following:
Publicity
Historian
Chaplin
Distinguished Member/Youth Award
St. Jude Coordinator Jr.
Flag Ceremony

Please let me know if you can help fill the position or know of a member that could help.

It was nice to have a warm sunny day. Coming home from Eugene today the car thermometer
Read 80 degrees in Bandon today. Looking forward to more good days.

Thank you for your help.

Joyce Hodge

Jr. Past President – Disaster Fund

Where has the year gone? Convention at Eagle Crest is next month. Yikes!!!

You have all been so supportive of my efforts to raise money for the Disaster Fund. For Convention, I will be raffling off another bag. This one is a super cute garden themed bag. Each ticket is $5 or you can purchase six (6) for $20. The winning ticket will be drawn at the end of the meeting on Sunday. Here is a picture of the project in progress.

The Disaster Fund is a special program from which ESA members in times of need can get help. By April 1st, I need Chapter's and District's donations. Make your checks out 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, chapters, or districts. Your generosity is very much appreciated!

I truly am looking forward to seeing you all at Convention. In the meantime, stay well, stay safe, and let's count our blessings.

Dragon Hugs
Julie

Cor Secretary

Please remember to send in the form for all Chapter & Member anniversaries that will be recognized at State Convention. Deadline for that is April 5th!

Sandy Diess

Recording Secretary

Hello everyone, I am looking forward to seeing you at State Convention in April at Eagle Crest Resort. I know we will have a great time and convention.

I so missed being at Winter meeting, but things happen so we do the best we can. I want to thank Su McDonell and Lani Shimer, for taking minutes for me, you did an awesome job. THANK YOU BOTH.

Please remember to bring a written report, as it is very helpful to look back a see if I got all the information correct. Thank you for your help.

See you soon and looking forward to Hugs.

HUGS,
Barb

I will have the Foundation Purse at Convention in April and hope to get a lot more donations. Thanks to everyone who has donated to date. And the totals so far are $315 in gift cards and $134 in cash. The total is $449. Hope to see that increase before IC. Additionally, if you have a new gift-type item to add to the purse. . .it would be very welcome.

More on the Foundation:

The annual scholarship application process is now closed for this year and the scholarships are being judged and awarded. Winners will be notified around the middle of May.

All Foundation members should check that ESA Headquarters has a valid email address for you to ensure ballots and other important information gets to you. The Foundation no longer issues credentials and all voting is electronic.

Please use the Turnaround funds whenever possible to disburse funds and donations. This is an easy way to support the Foundation. The turnaround fund donation form is available on the contribution page of the ESAF website.

The ESA Pathway Program was established last summer as a way to celebrate special ESA Foundation or ESA members, community volunteers, or other special people in our lives. Through the program, individuals can purchase virtual bricks in various contribution levels. For more information go to: Pathway - Epsilon Sigma Alpha (ESA) - An International Service Organization**.** Donations to the Pathway Program can be made at the website.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at Eagle Crest.

Chris York, State Counselor
ESA Foundation

Parliamentarian/Documents Chairman

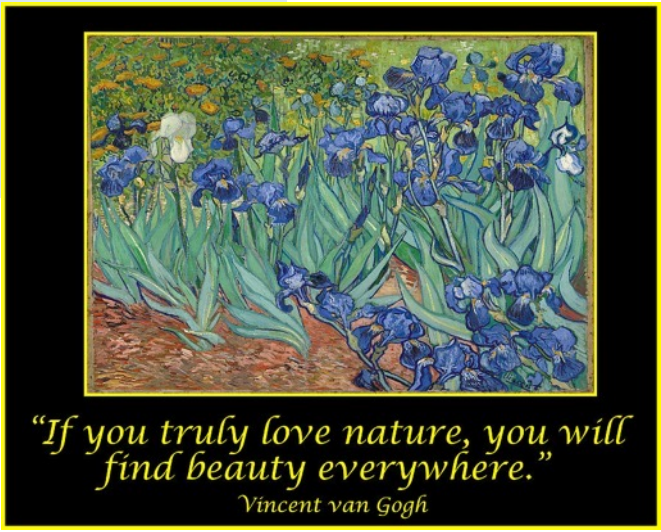
I'm sure that everyone will be happy to know that we will not have any By Law, Standing Rules, or Policy and Procedure changes to vote on at Convention.

The Documents Committee continues work on updating all of the Guidelines. Many of the Guidelines are the original documents that were written in 2008 and2009. These need to be updated as time has made many changes in how we do things. We need the help of the Officers and Committee Chairmen to take a look at them and help us add, delete, or change any of the duties or procedures that are no longer in practice. This is the end of our sorority year, so it is a good time to look at your particular guideline and let us know what you think needs to change.

The Guidelines are basically a job description, which helps a person know what is entailed in that position. It is helpful for the person taking the job for the first time to know what is expected of them. For us to have an accurate idea of what needs to change, we need your input. Please contact us after you review your Guideline.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at Convention.

Kathy State



General Giggles

Educational Director

Just a quick reminder to all the Chapter Educational Directors to be sure to send your chapter's educational report to me before the deadline of April 1st. And, to all the chapter presidents, be sure you submit your Chapter Educational Director for consideration of the Distinguished Athenian Service Award. All the information you need for both of these awards are in the President's yearbook under Section Three (State Forms and Information).

I am really looking forward to reading about what you have done and learned from your educational programs this year and hope to hear from all of you.

Joy Serkowney

Chaplain

Remembering those who have passed:

- Jan Williams, sister of Joyce Hodge, and aunt of Kari Engdahl Port Orford.
- Bob Orth, Husband of Donna, past Oregon State President, Delta Xi, Portland
- Alexis McCabe, granddaughter of Pat Watson, Alpha Omicron, Madras

Prayers and Healing Thoughts to:

- Ardyce Moore Omicron Omega trips to hospital, now living in an Assisted Living Facility.
- Ellen Ellis, Past State President, home after a stay in a rehab facility after a fall.
- Virginia Runge, Alpha Omicron, Madras, shoulder surgery.
- Sharon Comingore, Alpha Omicron, Madras hip surgery.
- Joyce Hodge, First Vice President, Port Orford, has completed chemo, starting radiation.
- Gary Barber, Delta Xi, Portland, rescheduled throat surgery. April 16.
- Diane Lewis, Alpha Upsilon, Hillsboro, back surgery
- Alice Chisholm, Alpha Upsilon, Hillsboro, completed her second round of chemo.

Remember, you make a big difference. Remember those around you. They will remember. 😊

Pat Stupur

Philanthropic Chair

Since this is my last article as philanthropic chair, I want to thank Connie for letting me hold this position. I have enjoyed it and want to say I will enjoy it even more if every one of the chapters gets your reports to me on time. The philanthropic report is the foundation of our organization, and its importance can't be overstated. I look forward to reading them and seeing all the great projects done and money raised by all of you. See you at convention.

Marsha Klosterman

Hope for Heroes

Many of you have sent in your Hope for Heroes activities throughout the year and it's been great to see so many creative and fun ways to give back to those who have sacrificed for our country.
I would love to put together a display of pictures and ideas from events across our state to share at convention this year Please send me any pictures you have from your events as well as a short recap of what your group has done to support this worthy cause. You can send everything to:

Tracy Norton at 310 Cameo Drive
Hood River, OR 97031 or
Tracy.norton@hoodriver.k12.or.us

Please be sure to include the name of your chapter with your info as well as the names of the people in the pictures.

Thank you so much!

Tracy Norton

Good Friends – Good Times
Winter Meeting

February 17-18, 2024
The Emerald Valley Golf &
Resort Event Center
Creswell, OR 97426

Dear Oregon ESA Sisters and Brothers,

We are pleased to inform you of the end financial result of our Winter Meeting at the Emerald Event Center in Creswell, Oregon in February.

44 Registrations Received @ $90.00 each		$3,960.00
Payment for Services		3,898.00
	Balance	$ 62.00
Refund to member with timely reasons		$ 90.00
	Balance	$ -28.00

Alpha Zeta Chapter members were so very pleased to be a part of the Winter Meeting.
We were treated to a very informative, interesting and amusing couple of days in a beautiful room filled with a lot of our friends and surrounded by many eagerly purchased items for sale at incredibly moderate prices. Collectively we enjoyed stuffing ourselves full of really good food and giving two very needful and grateful philanthropic organizations a helping hand.
We were fully satisfied with ourselves and our State Officers who acquitted themselves with all their endeavors for us.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve and to enjoy ourselves.

Your AZ sisters & brother

Alpha Zeta, Eugene

First and foremost, we want to let everyone know that we have a new member!!! Her name is Carol Szymaszek (pronounced S-may-zek, like smazing more or less). I am still learning how to spell her last name and I thought mine was hard. She was formally installed on February 29, 2024, and we are delighted to have her in our chapter.

Since our last submission to the Grapevine, we have had reports from Joy Serkowney, Jayne Merz, Linda Howes, and Su McDonell. We have had guest speakers from Hosea Youth Services, American Cancer Foundation and now we are getting them ready to send to the Educational Chair.

We, also, continue with tabs, miles, hours and bottles. We raised enough money from our last Paint and Pour to present a check for $675.00 to Hosea Youth Services. In addition, we received a grant from CHI, a charitable branch of Roseburg Hospital and we were able to present another check for $325.00 to Hosea.

Speaking of Paint and Pour, we will be hosting another one on May 4, 2024. If anyone out there in ESA-land is interested, please let Joy Serkowney know. We have a limit of 25, the cost is $30.00 which includes all supplies. All you have to bring is yourself and either a potluck dish or a bottle of wine. We do tend to have a good time and good results. This time the subject matter is a bouquet of daisies in a vase on a table. We would love to see any of you. Like I say we have a good time and go home with a painting to hang on the wall.

We will be having new officers installed this year. Melissa Gilliam will be our new president and we know she will do an excellent job filling President Su McDonell's shoes.

Melissa went to Leadership in Denver and loved every minute of it. She said that everyone was super nice to her and made her feel very comfortable.

Last but not least, 8 of us attended Winter Meeting in Creswell. We had a great time selling our wares and made some money for Easter Seals in the process.

Lani Shimer

Delta Gamma, Florence

Our March meeting was a "Model Meeting." We had four (4) guests there to meet us and get a good look at what we do. We were on our best behavior!

We have a full slate of officers who will be installed at our April 1st. And we have a wonderful social committee. They have already planned several get-togethers. We enjoy unplanned, spontaneous events, as well. And, do we ever have fun!

Julie Rassmann

Delta Xi, Portland

Delta Xi has started the new year with a celebration of our birthday. Delta Xi was chartered 66 years ago. The social committee put together a wonderful party to celebrate the day.

We have kept busy with Easter Seals projects. We had another collection of items for the Homeless Vet Program and delivered them to the office. Many of us attended the Bloomfest Ball, which honored ESA for their volunteer time. It was a lovely evening and a wonderful celebration for ESA. State President, Connie Russell accepted the plaque for Oregon ESA. We are now making plans to sell tulips during Bloomfest Week.

Our members are busy cooking meals for Transition Projects and the HIV Day Center. We have done 2 meals for each project and are planning more. We also cut coupons for Hope for Heroes and are collecting items for Easter baskets for the kids in the Trillium Program.

Several members attended Winter Meeting and had a wonderful time. We enjoyed the entire weekend.

Our vacation raffle still has a few tickets let. They are $20 and you can enjoy 5 days in Sun River. If you want one, check with a member. The drawing will be at the State Convention.

This has been a fun year for our Educationals. We are learning about GAMES. Many new and some old. It has been fun to learn some rules and try out a game or two.

We are welcoming two new members. Malinda Remington is transferring in from Florida and Shanin Engman is joining us as a new pledge. We are so happy to have them with us.

We are looking forward to a fun time at Convention. We hope to see many of you then.

Kathy State

Delta Kappa, Hood River

Delta Kappa had their outstanding member and awards social in February. We installed our 2 new members, presented service awards, and crowned our outstanding member. There was a tie for outstanding member, so we honored 2 members. We enjoyed homemade goodies and appetizers.

For March we have been working hard and getting ready for our Bingo Fundraiser. We have been baking, soliciting businesses for donations, selling tickets, and putting together baskets for the silent auction. We had a wine pull and 50/50 tickets. We want to thank the Hillsboro and Portland members who attended and supported our cause. Our Bingo was a great success.

Now we are looking forward to Spring if it ever gets here. Looking forward to seeing you all at convention.

Penny Phelps

Delta Kappa, Hood River

Alpha Upsilon, Hillsboro

Our social committee has kept us busy with Bingo at the Senior Center, Bunco Hosted by Susie Parks, and a Salad social business meeting Hosted by Karla Frengle followed by a Cheap Charlie gift exchange on Valentine's Day. Here we are as “Galentines” at this very fun social business meeting.

The Cheap Charlie gift exchange was a tribute to our late member Jo Thomas. Cheap Charlie gifts can be and should be something from your house. Nothing purchased, could be given, as is, or repurposed in some creative way. There were gifts for the most creative Cheap Gift, either funniest or most memorable, or most reminiscent of our Jo. Laughter is good for the soul and certainly she had a good time with this for she was talented, smart, committed to her church, family, AU, and the community. We had fun with this, and we knew Jo was up there in heaven, laughing along with us. Jo created “Cheap Charley” many years ago.

Our philanthropic committee was great with putting out our holiday giving plan this year. We continue to support Homeplate, How can we help, Sox for Cops, Elks Christmas Baskets, Prison AngelTree and Hope for Heroes Coupons. We extended our giving by adding the Western Farm Workers Association to our Philanthropic Giving Plan for 2023-24. The Western Farm Workers Association is an all-volunteer association that reaches out to low income, farm workers and their families throughout the county, with donations of food, and clothing.

This past holiday season, they reached out to 500 low income, farm workers and their families throughout the county, with two large holiday food distributions. In addition to that they filled a request from parents for new toys for their children, and they held the first holiday party, since the pandemic began. The party was a huge success. As an all-volunteer association, participation and donations of other supporters make their work possible. We look forward to continuing helping them build a strong organization to eliminate poverty at its roots.

Our educational reports online continue to be successful. Three members per month type in their report the Monday before our Wednesday meeting which allows all members to participate.

Alpha Upsilon members just keep “Marching” on! Spring is just around the corner, followed by Easter at the end of the month and before you know it, we will see you at ESA STATE CONVENTION.

Pearl Lushina

Willamette Valley District Council (WVDC)

Our next meeting will be in June, hosted by Delta Gamma, at Marsha Klosterman's vineyard. We will be going over our new bylaw changes and installing new officers at this meeting. We will also just enjoy being together once again. Time, date, and more information will be coming out later.

Julie Rassmann

Central District

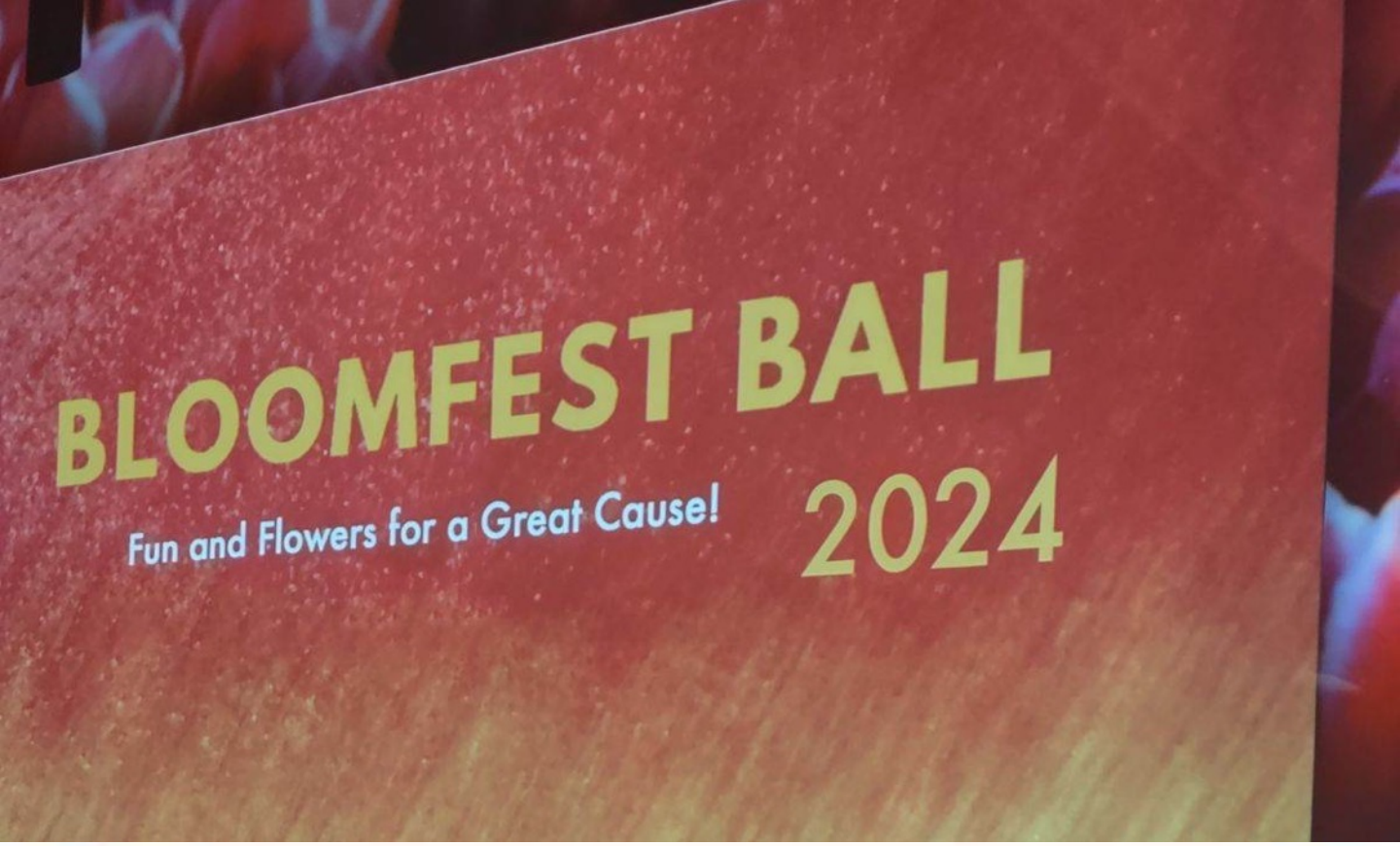
Central District is looking forward to welcoming all of you to the Oregon State Convention - "ESA IS HOPE, FRIENDSHIP, KNOWLEDGE." at Eagle Crest Resort, Redmond, Oregon, April 19-21, 2024.

Please contact Sharon Comingore if you have any questions or concerns:

sharoncom64@gmail.com
541-475-2863 home phone

We're very excited to see everyone at Convention. We're looking forward to a great time.

Nancy Reid (AKA Doll) 😃


BLOOMFEST BALL
Fun and Flowers for a Great Cause!
2024

ESA OREGON

WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE
TO EVERYONE AT
ESA OREGON
For your outstanding 60+ year partnership of year-round volunteer service, philanthropic support, and dedication to making life a whole lot better for children and adults living with disabilities, and for seniors and Veterans in urgent need of help with employment, housing, and knowing that they matter and are cared about.
For your commitment to always showing up and supporting at any time and in any capacity, for making such a significant difference in the lives of so many, and especially those most in need.
MIRACLE PARTNER AWARD
Presented March 1, 2024
easterseals
Oregon

Please join the Omega Mu chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha
for their annual fun-filled

Spring Auction

Saturday, April 27,2024
1:00 to 3:00 pm

Santiam Place

1395 Main Street in Lebanon, OR 97355

Silent and Oral Auctions

Featuring

Unique handcrafted items from local craftspeople, various baskets, collectibles, gifts and a chance to bid on a fishing trip.

Too many goodies to list here.

Doors open at 1:00 for Silent Auction, Oral Auction at 2:00

$10 – Lunch tickets available

Beer/Wine available-- Donations accepted.

Omega Mu supports local and national organizations such as St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Easter Seals, Make a Wish, Mid-Valley schools, US Service Personnel, Safe Haven Humane Society and more.

Profits from the auction provide High School Seniors with college or trade school scholarships. Scholarship winners are asked to attend to be awarded.

Don't forget…Mother's Day is next month May 9th.

Contact Jill Rankin 541-223-1463 rankin99@comcast.net

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 #__

Convention Reminders

❑ **Credentials**

If you are not attending Convention be sure to send your proxy with someone so that your vote counts.

❑ **Anniversaries**

Please remember to send in the form for all Chapter & Member anniversaries that will be recognized at State Convention. Deadline for that is April 5th!

❑ **Association of the Arts**

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

❑ **ESAFoundation**

Please bring any donations to the ESAFoundation purse to Convention.

❑ **Outstanding Member**

Please remember to send in the form for your Chapter's Outstanding Member along with the fee only if they are attending State Convention.

❑ **Chapter & District Rosters**

Please remember to bring or send 3 copies of your updated Chapter and District Rosters and deliver those to the incoming Corresponding Secretary.

Easter Seals

Bloomfest week is April 8-12, 2024

ESA is HOPE, FRIENDSHIP, AND KNOWLEDGE
78th Oregon State Convention 2024
Redmond, Oregon

Friday - April 19th

1:30-2:30 pm	Executive Board Lunch by invitation	High Desert Room
4:30-5:30 pm	Gavels Meeting - Leianne Stinton	High Desert Room
5:30-7:00pm	Registration and Credentials Raffle Sales Drop off 2024-2025 Rosters Mailbox Drop Off and Check-in	Juniper Hall
7:15-10:00 pm	Mixer -	Juniper Hall
	Introduction of IC Representative	Connie Russell
	Association of the Arts - review & vote	Becky Diehnel
	Raffle Sales	
7:30 pm	Candidates Faire - Hosted by Jean Forsman	

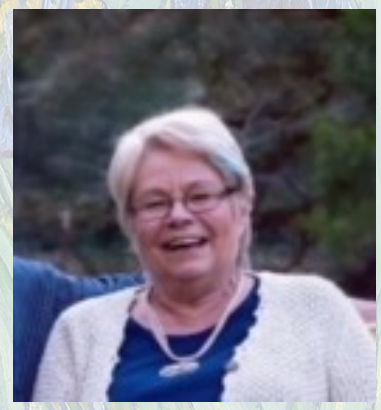
Trivia game — presented by Central District

Breakfast on your own Saturday morning. The hotel cafe beside the lobby opens at 7 am to 10:30 am for breakfast. Snack items are available during the day, pay at the front desk. They

2024-2025 ESA Oregon State Council
Slate of Officers

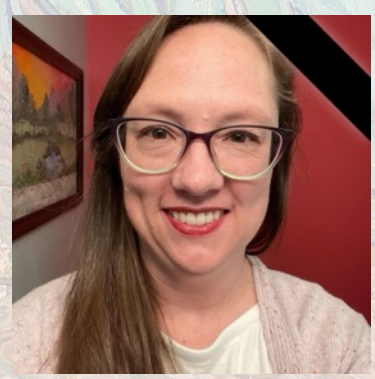
President – Joyce Hodge

Candidates 2024-2025
Joined ESA in 1983, Alpha Psi, Port Orford
Has held all Chapter offices
Has held all District offices
Has held State offices: 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Audit Committee, Philanthropic
Has attended 30 State Conventions, 5 District meetings in the last 2 years



1st Vice President – Jean Forsman

Joined ESA in 1989, Delta Gamma, Florence and then again in 2020
Has held all Chapter offices
Has held District office: Vice President
Has held State Council offices: 2nd Vice President, Workshop, Recording Secretary, Association of the Arts
Has attended 19 State Conventions, 5 District meetings in the last 2 years



2nd Vice President – Melanie Swann

Joined ESA in 1995, Beta Omicron, Burns
Has held Chapter offices: President and Treasurer
Has held District offices: President and Treasurer
Has held State Council office: Treasurer
Has attended 20 State Conventions, 6 District meetings in the last 2 years

Recording Secretary – Barb Moss

Joined ESA in 2000, Beta Omicron, Burns
Has held Chapter offices: President several times, Vice President, Secretary
Has held District offices: President three times, Vice President three times, Recording Secretary four times
Has held State Council offices: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Recording Secretary, multiple General Board positions
Has attended 3 IC Conventions, 24 State Conventions, 6 District meetings in the last 2 years

Treasurer – Kari Engdahl

Joined ESA in 1993, Alpha Psi, Port Orford, returned to active status in 2022.
Has held Chapter offices: President 2 times, Vice President, Secretary Has held District office: Secretary
Has held State Council offices: Treasurer, 2008 Convention Co-Chair Has attended 10 State Conventions

Workshop coordinator – Melissa Gilliam

Joined ESA in 2021, Alpha Zeta, Eugene
Has held Chapter offices: Vice President, will be President 2024-2025 Has attended 2 State Conventions

Corresponding Secretary – Carolyn Warren

Joined ESA in 1988, Alpha Iota, Grants Pass, transferred to Beta Iota, Roseburg, MAL, returned to active status in 2024 to Alpha Zeta, Eugene
Has held all Chapter offices
Has held all District offices except Recording Secretary
Has held all State Council offices except Recording Secretary
Has attended 10 IC Conventions, 34 State Conventions, 2 District meetings in the past 2 years

Jr. Past President – Connie Russell
Joined ESA in 2012, Beta Eta, Sutherlin
Has held Chapter offices: President, Vice President, Secretary
Has held District offices: President, Vice President
Has held State Council offices: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd President, Treasurer, St Jude Chair, Easter Seals Chair
Has attended 5 IC Conventions, 10 State Conventions, and all District meetings in last 2 years