



**On Your MARC in ESA**

**November 2023**

**ReMARCs**

# Officer Reports



## President – Jill Shull

Hello fellow **MARC** members. Are you **ON YOUR MARC**? There is no rest time in getting this **MARC** year started. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to bring it to my attention. I may not know the answer but, I certainly will be helping look for an answer or resolution.

I would like to thank the **Illinois State Council** for a fabulously fun Octoberfest for the **2023 MARC Conference** in East Peoria, Illinois. We learned of German history and culture, learned how to polka dance, and put that into practice. We had wonderful speakers for St Jude Children's Research Hospital Affiliate, located right across the river in Peoria. I loved the personal St Jude stories from Dane Perdue, and Tori's mom, Tonya. The Gold star family stories had me crying, my heart breaking with the stories of keeping their loved one's memories alive.

I would like to thank my fellow **ESA Omega Nu** chapter and Celeste Webb in arranging a beautiful installation. Her words were sweet and personal to my ears. And thank you to Rhonda Rawlings in supporting me behind the scenes and raising my gavel.

The following is my acceptance speech for those not able to attend **MARC** Conference.

I would like to extend my gratitude to those that this could not have happened without their backing. My family, my chapter, ***Omega Nu***, my state, ***Illinois State Council***, and you, the ***MARC*** members for having chosen me for the past several years and for believing in me to become the President of the ***Midwest Area Regional Council***.

Friends, it is an absolute honor and privilege to stand before you on this graceful occasion and utter the most awaited words “Yes, I accept to be the President of the ***Epsilon Sigma Alpha Midwest Area Regional Council*** for the year of 2023-2024”. But a single head achieves nothing, so I am counting on your support to achieve the growth and goals I have dreamt for ***MARC***. This is truly a moment to be honored and cherished. I accept this appointment with pride and will give my best efforts to make you proud to have selected me. With grace of God and the cooperation of fellow members, I will devote my time and myself to the obligations and the duties of being your President.

Are you ***ON YOUR MARC*** with ***A Vision to Connect through Communication?***

The ***Vision*** I have is conducting monthly targeted Zoom Meetings. The Elected Board, Appointed Board, Committee Chairs, ***MARC*** Reps and others will be exploring more effective ways to ***Connect and Communicate*** throughout the year. Not just at our Annual Conference.

Are you ***ON YOUR MARC*** with ***A Vision to Connect through Communication?***

I would like to ***Connect*** each ***MARC*** state with the world. The starting point is having a ***“MARC State of the Month.”*** I will focus this state on our website and social media. I will be appointing a Special Projects Committee to assist with this. The first ***MARC State of the Month*** starting in November will be the ***Illinois State Council***. There will be scheduling of more states in the future.

Are you ***ON YOUR MARC*** with ***A Vision to Connect through Communication?***

Now, I know, everyone loves to ***Communicate***. Every state needs to help promote and encourage what the ***MARC State of the Month*** is doing for Education, Service, and Association. And when it comes your states’ turn as ***MARC State of the Month***, it will be reciprocated. Please do not keep this as the ***Best Kept Secret*** to just ***ESA*** members. Share with the world. And just because your state is not the state of the month, when it comes to the ***ReMARC’s***, you do not get off the hook for articles.

Let me introduce your **MARC** 2023-2024 appointed chairs and committees. And they are as follows:

Audit Chair: Judy Baxter, WI  
Audit Committee: Emmy Neustrom, SD  
Audit Committee: Brittany Covey, MO  
Budget Chair: Alley Gary, IN  
Budget Committee: Misty Evans, IL  
Budget Committee: Dee Rotering, MN  
Chaplain: Jennifer Sparkman, OK  
ESA Foundation: Elaine Chaney, IN  
Hope for Heroes: Misty Evans, IL  
Nomination Chair: Bonnie Templeton, KS  
Nomination Committee: Amanda Dixon, OH  
Nomination Committee: Jacque Cantrell, OK  
Special Projects Co-Chair: Kathleen Grissom, IL  
Special Projects Co-Chair: Brittany Rosenmund, MI  
Ways and Means Chair: Brittany Rosenmund, MI  
Ways and Means Committee: Judy Baxter, WI  
Ways and Means Committee: Sheri Meyer-Harden, KS  
Ways and Means Committee: Brandy Small, IN  
Ways and Means Committee: Deb Frahm, NE  
Webmaster: Brenda Fields, MO  
2024 MARC Conference Co-Chair: Brenda Fields, MO  
2024 MARC Conference Co-Chair: Ruth Williams, MO  
2024 MARC Conference Audit Chair: Sharon George, MO  
2024 MARC Conference Audit Committee: Cindee DeLong, MO  
2024 MARC Conference Audit Committee: Kim Mandrell, MO

If you had not heard, the Ways and Means for **MARC** has been a little bleak since the covid pandemic. We can no longer rely upon those attending the **MARC** Conference to fund everything. We must take this issue to all our **MARC** members. There is no reason why we must only raise funds at the conference and cannot raise funds thru-out the year. As I mentioned before we will be implementing “**MARC State of the Month.**” It would be nice opportunity to have that state take on a project to help **MARC**. The **Illinois State Council** will be starting in November. Please

take these **Connect** and **Communicate** ideas to your state to see what you can do to support **MARC** as **MARC** supports you. Let us be ever mindful to the responsibility that we pledge to ourselves and each other and be **ON YOUR MARC**.

There is an old saying, "Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers: pray for powers equal to your tasks."

At the end of the **MARC** year, it is my dream and prayer that we have been **ON YOUR MARC** and transformed these possibilities and opportunities into stories of success and triumph.

So, again thank you for selecting me and thank you for all your guidance as we drive our organization from here and letting you see **A Vision to Connect through Communication**. So, let us get **ON YOUR MARC**...

### **Vice President – Amanda Rowland**

Hello ESA members. It's cold and dreary here in Ohio. Fall is definitely upon us and now the dreaded time change too! I like to think of this time of year as a time to reflect on the past as we go into the holiday season. Thinking of all the great things I am thankful for, and those I cherish most. ESA has changed my life in ways I could never repay it but has also opened my eyes to a world I never dreamed I would see. I can't thank ESA enough for everything it has given me, and I truly hope I have made all of you proud. It's my honor to be your Vice President of this great Midwest Area.

With that being said, I need you! I need you and your skills to run for the MARC board! As we all saw at the conference there are many great positions to run for and even the appointed board is fantastic. Whether you are into Hope for Heroes or making money for MARC with Ways and Means or even accounting like Treasurer or audit committee- We need you! Start thinking about how you want to make an impact on the board. Bonnie Templeton, Jr Past President/Nomination chair as well as Jacque Cantrell and I will be in touch with all of you to get your nomination form in.

Thank you to Illinois for hosting a great conference. I had so much fun learning the Polka and hearing from Tonya Lodge, the mother who lost her daughter to that dreaded C word. The German American Central Society was so informational, and that guy could really play that big horn!

Congratulations to Jill Shull and her 2023-2024 board. I know this year is going to be great and I'm very excited to be your VP. Let's be on our Marc's this year! ESA love ~ Mandy



### **Junior Past President – Bonnie Templeton**

Last year I stood before you honored to begin serving as your MARC president. This year has flown by so quickly it's hard to believe the time has come to pass the gavel on to your new president.

I want to thank my Kansas members and all of you for the support and encouragement you have given me over the years leading up to this moment. I'm glad I made the decision to join Epsilon Sigma Alpha 25 years ago and made the decision that led to being your MARC president. It has been one of the best decisions of my life.

Bees have a short life span – just six weeks – and it is the result of working themselves to death. Their strong work ethic, that spans generations, reminds me of the foundations that ESA brings to us – Education, Service and Association. With each event we participate in, we learn something, we give something and we make new friends along the way.

I am excited to see what MARC will accomplish going forward. Thank you again for being all you can **Bee** with ESA!

### **Recording Secretary – Beth Pompa**

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your MARC Recording Secretary. Just to introduce myself, I am Beth Pompa from Kansas. I have been a member of ESA for 21 years and have served in many positions in my Chapter, at the District level and at the State, most recently as their President during 2022-2023. I am currently serving as the Association of the Arts Chair for IC. I will be retiring from my current position as Operations Secretary for the Rose Hill School District after 30 years at the end of November and am looking forward to doing traveling and just basically whatever I want. I have been married to Joe for 42 years and we have two adult sons, one grandson and another grandbaby due in June. I look forward to seeing many of you at IC in Kanas this July!

### **Nominating Committee – Bonnie Templeton**

Hope this finds you all ready for the Holiday Season! It was so good to see many of you at the MARC Conference in Peoria! It was a great time!

It is not too soon to start thinking about how you can help MARC grow and prosper in the future. Please consider running for an elective office or serving on

a committee. The forms are on the MARC Website. The elective positions are Communicator, Parliamentarian, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President and President. Nomination forms need to be signed by your State President and forwarded to me at Bonnie Templeton, 3020 Honeydew Ln, Manhattan, KS 66503. Forms are due to me by June 15, 2024.

## **Ways and Means Committee 2022-2023 – Kathleen Grissom**

Dear MARC Members .... Thank YOU, Thank YOU, Thank YOU!!! Because of YOU, this year's Ways and Means generated a total of \$4200.00 dollars!! Because of YOU, Oktoberfest was a Success!!

Here is a breakdown of the monies collected:

Market Place table reservations:	\$200.00
The Purse/Item Live Auction:	\$3135.00
Beverage Pull and Wine Opener	\$320.00
Silent Bids:	\$494.00
Monetary Donations:	\$51.00

On behalf of our Ways and Means Committee members Beth Pompa (KS), Becky Hatton (MO) and myself (IL), we would like to say once again Thank You to all of our MARC members!! YOU made this a successful Year. Remember MARC President Jill Shull's theme.... "On Your Marc 2023, A Vision to Connect through Communication."

We look forward to seeing you in Missouri in 2024 .... Till then have a beautiful Thanksgiving, a Very Merry Christmas or Festivus and a pretty darn Happy New Year's. #becauseofesa

Kathleen Grissom - MARC Ways and Means Chair 2022-2023

Beth Pompa – MARC Ways and Means Committee member

Rebecca Hatton – MARC Ways and Means Committee member



## **Hope for Heroes 2022-2023 – Jill Richards**

Greetings from Your MARC Hope for Heroes Team - Jill Richards, Brittany Covey, and Ruth Archambeau. Wow, it is hard to believe that it is November, where did October go?!?! A great part of October was our time together at the MARC Conference in Peoria, Illinois. Great job to all involved, you did well!!

Thank you, thank you and thank you again and again... The love and support from everyone for our two speakers, Gold Star Mom, Anita Dixon and husband King, and America's Gold Star Families Founder and Director, Patti Latch was in true ESA, MARC fashion, totally awesome!! They were all overwhelmed and thankful for all that was done for them. There were almost three hundred birthday cards donated and over \$1,300.00 in cash and Walmart gift cards. More have been received since the conference so don't have an actual amount. I know that each card and gift card will be put a smile on a young child's face. If you get on their website, <https://americasgoldstarfamilies.org/> there is a gallery showing pictures of children receiving cards. They also have a Facebook page. Go check them out.

Big thank you to Brittany and Ruth for all of their help. And a BIG thank you to Bonnie for allowing us to serve this past year.

We hope that you have a happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year ahead!!

Jill Richards, Brittany Covey, and Ruth Archambeau

## **Hope for Heroes 2023-2024 – Misty Evans**

Hi All! Due to unforeseen circumstances, Pam Mitchell has had to step down as the Hope for Heroes Chair and I have graciously accepted this appointment from President Jill! The military holds a special place near and dear to my heart as my son, Benjamin, attending basic training over the summer as part of the Split-Ops program. He is home now completing his Senior year of high school and will head off to AIT next summer upon graduation!

November has been a busy month of with chapters celebrating our veterans! Omega Nu in Illinois provides desserts to our local American Legion and VFW for their Veterans lunch event. Eta Pi in Indiana is hosting a Winter Warm-Up for Homeless Veterans. I am sure they would welcome donations to help purchase items for this wonderful event!



Jo Grafton from Omega Nu pictured with Wayne Cox, Commander of the Mattoon VFW with several donated desserts.



EPSILON SIGMA ALPHA:  
ETA PI



ANNUAL  
*Winter  
Warm-Up*  
BENEFITING HVAF OF  
INDIANA, INC.



Men's Winter Apparel & Personal Care Items will be  
collected & donated to HVAF of Indiana, Inc.

- Jeans
- Boxer Shorts
- Socks
- Work/Heavy Gloves
- Athletic Shoes
- Hats
- Toothbrushes & Paste
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Shaving Supplies
- Travel-Size Lotion

All items should be new.



COLLECTION DATES

NOVEMBER 11 - DECEMBER 13, 2023

AMERICAN LEGION POST 470  
& WHITE'S ACE HARDWARE



How are your chapters and states supporting the Hope for Heroes cause? I would love to hear from you. Stay tuned for more to come in the coming months on how we can come together and support each other while providing support to our active duty, veteran's and family members!

Enjoy the holidays with your loved ones! Until next time,

Misty Evans

[Mistyevas2021@gmail.com](mailto:Mistyevas2021@gmail.com)



# State Reports

## Illinois – Misty Evans, President

Greetings from Illinois! It was awesome seeing everyone that attending Oktoberfest in East Peoria! Special kudos to Jamie and Maria on hosting a fun-filled event and thank you to my state for being so helpful throughout the weekend. Bonnie, you had an awesome year and I loved serving alongside you. To our very own, Jill Shull, here is to an amazing year. We are ready to stand beside you, serving wherever you need!



MARC members enjoy a competitive game of Heads or Tails!!





Illinois members at MARC Conference!!

Our Beta Mu chapter recently held a “Friendsgiving” for the three chapters in Coles County and members had a great time catching up with each other!



Omega Nu is gearing up for the One Stop Community Christmas in December (Beta Mu assists us) where we provide cleaning supplies and Alpha Upsilon distributes socks at their table! If anyone would like to donate to Omega Nu's table, we have a wish list on Amazon!

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/166B17859ETNL?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/166B17859ETNL?ref=wl_share)



Members of Alpha Upsilon with Riddle Elementary students who collected Socks for Socktober!

I hope that everyone has a wonderful holiday season! Stay warm and healthy! I'm gonna leave you with this picture of some Illinois members who snuck away with Denise to attend a concert while at MARC...that handsome guy in the middle is up and coming artist, Matt Jordan!!



Keep Rockin' Away in ESA!!

Misty

## **Michigan**

Hello wonderful MARC members!

I hope everyone is enjoying the cool fall weather, beautiful colors, and the excitement of the holiday season coming up! In my position as a high school Culinary Arts Instructor, my students get so excited to bake for the holidays and really wanted to learn how to make cheesecake. Keeping in tune with the fall theme, we decided to make pumpkin swirl cheesecake and it turned out absolutely delicious! If you have a knack for baking and want to give this a try for your Thanksgiving gatherings coming up, I could not recommend a better dessert (maybe I am biased because I am a cheesecake fanatic!). I hope everyone has a wonderful & safe holiday season ahead and find the joy in baking... or just indulging in someone else's delicious treats 😊 Please see the recipe on the last page!

-Baylee Pfiester, ESA Michigan State President

## **Missouri**

A Big Thank You to the Illinois State Council for hosting the 38<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Midwest Area Regional Council. The workshops were great. We learned, laughed, danced, and cried. Missouri State Council had 19 members present.

We are looking forward to a great year with Jill Shull as your our MARC President. Missouri's own, Julie Whitaker was installed as our new Parliamentarian. Congrats on a well-rounded board.

Please mark your calendar for October 11-12, 2024. Missouri Torchbearers (With the help of all MO members) will be hosting the 2024 MARC Conference at Sheraton at Westport Plaza in St. Louis. More information to follow as we celebrate "Under the Arch". Registration will be \$175.00 for full conference. Room rate \$159.00 (no limit on number of guests).

Terri Breedlove, MARC Representative

Rebecca Hatton, MARC Representative





## **Ohio Amanda Dixon, President**

Hello everyone! Fall is definitely here and its cold and drizzly in Ohio. We started off our year in September with our fall council meeting. It was a great meeting full of heart and great speakers. Jane Doorly from the local food pantry, The FISH Pantry, came with her husband. They gave us a wonderful presentation about what all their organization does for their local community. Ohio members initially brought supplies to the meeting to make blessing bags for the homeless but were so touched by the Doorly's we ended up giving everything to them! It was such a great unexpected event.

I was also especially excited for this meeting because I had ALL three of my aunts in ESA and at the meeting, not to mention my cousins as well.

Ohio has started their monthly online auction on Facebook for St. Jude.

Each chapter donated an item to be put up for bids on the first of the month.

Bidding ends on the 15th of the month and a winner is announced. Open to the public, everyone is encouraged to go check out the Ohio State Council of ESA's Facebook page and bid! We have a lot of great items.

A few members also attended the MARC Conference in East Peoria, IL. They sure did a great job on the conference. Lots of fun was had. Congratulations to Jill Shill of IL and her newly elected board members.

Ohio has been making strides left and right to try and fundraise and get the ESA word out there. We have been having garage sales, bingo parties, and even using the Olive Oil and Vinegar tasting for recruitment. I am very proud of Ohio!



## Oklahoma



From the Desk of

Patty Heer  
Oklahoma State Council President



It is hard to believe that it is already the middle of November with the holidays just around the corner.

Oklahoma's Western District recently had their leadership meeting and collected 232 pair of socks for the Shoes that Fit program, district project. This program provides seven pair of socks and one pair of shoes each semester to school children in need of new shoes.

Wishing each of you a blessed holiday season!

## **South Dakota**

As many of you are already aware South Dakota ESA Is Hanging in There on a Wing and a Prayer. We currently have no state president so I am acting as the state contact person.

Luann Ouellette and I thoroughly enjoyed the 2023 MARC Conference in East Peoria, Illinois. Thank you to Jamie Atchison and Maria Bingheim for a great experience and for all your help with room reservations.

South Dakota currently has two active chapters, one out in Winner (what we call “West River”) and one here on the east side of the state in Vermillion. Beta Alpha Chapter of Winner is small but mighty and very dedicated to continuing to do so much for their community. On Saturday, November 18, Beta Alpha hosted their Show and Sell which has been an annual event for ten years. Vendors are invited to showcase their creations at this pre-Christmas bazar-like setting. Over the years this event has raised thousands of dollars for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital as well as many community organizations including but not limited to Dakota Senior Meals, Tripp County Backpack Program, Tripp County Library, and the Winner Fire Department.

Theta Omega Chapter here in Vermillion is a larger group of about 20 members. The chapter is currently involved in its Giving Tree Project. Members place and monitor Christmas trees in local businesses, the public library, and the hospital. Each tree has tags on it with a list of gifts that a parent has requested for their child’s Christmas. The parents have signed up through Head Start and Social Services. This helps us keep the recipient families anonymous. You would be amazed at the number of requests for clothing and winter gear that are on those tags. There are also donation envelopes (tags) on the trees for those who prefer to have chapter members do the shopping. There are several large employers in town that request a number of tags and just go about fulfilling the requests. Everything is taken to the 4-H Center where chapter members sort the gifts by family number and child number. If there is a need for “fill-ins”, members go shopping to fill the needs. Parents bring their letter from Head Start or Social Services that gives them a number corresponding to our list when gifts are

distributed. Theta Omega has been doing this project for more than 20 years. Each year, gifts are distributed to approximately 100+ families representing over 200 children. There is so much need out there!

Barb Campbell

Contact person for ESA South Dakota

## **2023 MARC Conference Wrap-Up**

Danke! Danke! Danke!

We appreciate everyone who attended the 2023 MARC Leadership & Conference Oktober in East Peoria! We hope everyone had a grand time, we missed those who could not attend or those who were unable to make it at the last moments. We hope you learned something about St. Jude that you did not know from Michael Maloor, Rich Unes, and ALSAC Bekah Abbott, were touched by a mother's enduring love with Tonya's beautiful tribute to Tori's legacy and Dane Perdieu's strength and resilience, enjoyed the Sinclair Dance Studio polka training, the German American Society's knowledge & alphorn, Al's Polka Band, and Neal Bowling.

Jamie Atchison & Maria Bingheim, Co-chairs and Illinois State Council

### 2023 MARC Conference Financial Statement

Income MARC 2023 Conference Loan	\$500.00
Registration	
Leadership & Conference by 9/12/23 \$175 x 90	\$15,750.00
Leadership & Conference after 9/12/23 \$190 x 10	\$1,900.00
Conference Only by 9/12/23 \$150 x1	\$150.00
Friday Lunch Only Walk-In \$40 x1	\$40.00
Saturday Lunch Only Walk-In \$65 x1	\$65.00
Saturday Banquet Only by 9/12/23 \$65 x3	\$195.00
Peoria Visitor Bureau	\$500.00
Program Ads* (5@\$100, 3@\$50, 1@\$25)	\$775.00
Leadership	\$600.00
(St. Jude Honorarium \$250, Sinclair Dance \$250, German American Society \$100)	
Total Income	\$20,475.00

#### Expenses

Centerpieces	\$177.05
Cookies partial expense (remainder donated)	\$38.00
Hospitality Room	\$153.73
Head Table Table Tents	\$20.48
Decorations	\$69.54
Board Gifts	\$77.74
Pretzels	\$73.67
Friday Night Entertainment (Al's Pals)	\$115.00
Saturday Night Entertainment (Neal Bowling)	\$200.00
Embassy Suites Conference Center	
Friday Lunch (comped 3 for leadership presenters)	\$2,828.00
Friday A/V	\$1,280.00
Friday Service Charge	\$1,027.00
Friday Sales Tax	\$300.48
Saturday Lunch	
(comped 3 for American Gold Star Families)	\$3,200.00
Saturday Dinner	\$4,444.00
Saturday A/V	\$1,145.00
Saturday Service Charge	\$2,197.25
Saturday Sales Tax	\$812.19
Square service charge	\$3.38
Total Expenses	\$18,162.51

Loan Repayment to MARC	\$500.00
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Profit to MARC	\$1,812.49
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\*KS MARC Officer/Appt Officers Ad 1 page \$100 check given back to KS due to error in placing it in program book

# Pumpkin Swirl Cheesecake

Ingredients:

## **Crust**

- Graham Cracker Crumbs, 180 g
- Butter, Unsalted, Melted, 56 g
- Granulated Sugar, 50 g
- Ground Ginger, ¼ tsp
- Ground Cinnamon, ¼ tsp

## **Filling**

- Cream Cheese (room temp), 904 g
- Granulated Sugar, 300 g
- Sour Cream (room temp), 80 g
- Vanilla Extract, 1 tsp
- Large Eggs, 3
- Pumpkin Puree, 227 g
- Ground Cinnamon, 1 ½ tsp
- Pumpkin Pie Spice, 1 ½ tsp

Directions:

1. Adjust oven rack to middle of oven and preheat to 350°F. Make the crust by combining graham crumbs, melted butter, granulated sugar, ginger, and cinnamon in a mixing bowl or food processor. Press into the bottom and partially up the sides of a 9" or 10" springform pan. Bake for 10 minutes and place the springform pan on a large piece of aluminum foil.
2. Prepare the filling- using a handheld or stand mixer, beat cream cheese and sugar until smooth, scraping down the sides of the bowl periodically. This should take approximately 2 minutes. Add sour cream and vanilla and mix well. Add the eggs one at a time until fully combined.
3. Begin to boil a pot of water- this will be used for your hot water bath.
4. In a separate bowl, pour half the batter. Mix in pumpkin puree, cinnamon, and pumpkin pie spice. In your springform pan atop the crust, alternate adding each batter by spoonful. Alternate adding the batters until the pan is full and all batter is used. Use a knife or skewer to swirl the batter in the pan top to bottom, then left to right.
5. Wrap the aluminum foil around your pan and place inside a large roasting pan. Place the pan in the oven, then pour the hot water to surround the cheesecake. Bake the cheesecake for 55-70 minutes until the center is almost set. It will slightly wiggle when shaking the pan gently. Turn the oven off and open the door slightly. Let the cheesecake set in the cracked oven for 1 hour until cool then at room temperature until completely cool. Transfer to fridge for 4 hours or overnight.

