

Midwest Area Regional Council News

November 2018

We want you....

to write an article for the next issue of reMARCS. Everyone is interested in what is going on in your state. Let us know how much fun you are having, share tips for fund raising and how you are communicating with your collegiate if you have them. Enquiring minds want to know! You don't have to be a state president or a MARC Rep to submit an article. We would love to hear from all of you!

The deadline for articles for the April issue is 1 March 2019. Please email your articles to Mary and Kim at remarcseesa@gmail.com.

We would love to hear from you! Let's get at least one article from each state in the next issue!

reMARCS



From your president

Debbie Vercellono

What a fabulous 2018 MARC Conference in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. I want to thank Tarah Eliason, Kim Berven and all the South Dakota ESA members for a spectacular MARC Conference. The entire weekend was jam packed.

I loved the Leadership speakers on Friday. To learn that there is human trafficking in all of the MARC States is a sobering and scary thought. Learning how to make "plarn" and sleeping mats for the homeless veterans was a wonderful activity and one we can all take back to our chapters. Wouldn't it be great to love life and have as much energy as Dr. Elaine Doll-Dunn when we approach our 90s? Her sense of humor is amazing.

I was definitely out of my comfort zone on Friday night while performing the officer skits on the "Magic Moments" in our lives. All the ladies stepped up and did an amazing job. It was a great way to start the evening and an even better way to end the evening when I was able to take home a bottle of wine that I helped bottle myself. I didn't realize how many steps were involved after the grapes to make a bottle of wine.

The elegance of the installation ceremony was a memory I will never forget. The ballroom was elegantly decorated and my family was impressed with our names etched on the glasses. A heartfelt thank you to Dora Dill and her helper Nebraska State President Deb Frahm for the beautiful installation ceremony. It was an honor to have a past International President from Nebraska preside over the installation. THANK YOU TO MY GAMMA DELTA CHAPTER SISTERS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE HONOR GUARD - SHARON HOLTGREWE, MARILYN GEIER, ROBIN JOHNSON AND ROLO BRENDEN. I WILL ALWAYS APPRECIATE YOUR LOVE, SUPPORT AND CONFIDENCE IN ME. AND NONE OF US WILL FORGET THE SNOW THAT AWAITED US ON OUR RETURN TRIP HOME.

Upcoming Events

November 30 - December 2, 2018 Memphis Marathon Weekend

February 1, 2019 Journey (Jonquil) articles due

February 28 - March 3, 2019 ESA Leadership - Denver, CO

March 1, 2019 - ReMARCS articles due

March 23, 2019 - Regional Leadership Conference, St. Louis, MO



From your Vice President Linda Schmidt

Wow, what a wonderful 2018 MARC Conference we had hosted by South Dakota!! Great speakers, great food, great shopping and great friends! What more can you ask for? Thank you to Tarah, Kim and all of our SD friends who planned such a wonderful time!

I was honored to be installed as your Vice President/President Elect, and I thank you for your love and support. This year I am looking for those who are ready for a new MARC leadership adventure. With twelve MARC states, there are so many talented and qualified people that can step up and make a difference to our organization. I'd love to be overwhelmed with requests to run for an office or to serve on the Board. I can't do it alone - I need you!!! Please consider being a part of the 2019 - 2020 MARC Board. The MARC website has a Nomination Form to complete and return to Celeste Webb, or just email me at lschm79148@comcast.net to volunteer to serve on a committee or as a committee chair. I look forward to hearing from you!

Have a wonderful holiday season!



From your Past Secretary Linda Schmidt

MARC Conference Minutes 10/13/18

Jamie Atchison, Past IC President conducted a beautiful opening flag ceremony.

Deb Vercellono, Vice President introduced Celeste Webb, MARC President. Celeste declared the 33rd MARC Conference in session at 9:18 am. The Opening Ritual was said by all.

Bonnie Templeton, Chaplain, gave the opening thought.

Charlotte Carloni, ESA Executive Director welcomed everyone from ESA Headquarters. She is very excited for the new publication, *Journey* and hope we share it with others. Headquarters is holding ESA's first regional Leadership on March 23rd in St. Louis. This will be a one-day seminar for \$105.00 and includes lunch and materials. The Registration Form and hotel details will be on the website soon.

If you are a new state president, please send us your email address so that we can make sure you get a copy of the reMARCS to send to your state members.

Everyone is encouraged to hold a Choctober membership event in October. She reminded us we can pledge new people all year round. Let's Taco about ESA event from OK was one of the successful events held this fall.

Charlotte is engaged and turned 30 this year. After IC Convention she went to Memphis for the collegiate members leadership held at St. Jude. Shawn Kelly, videographer at ALSAC spoke and was very motivational. He encouraged all to continue doing the things you love and are passionate about. Don't be afraid to lean in and fear failure. Be courageous of the decisions you make.

Tarah Eliason, MARC Conference Chair and Kim Berven, SD State President each gave a welcome to the attendees. Celeste introduced the MARC Officers, Past IC Presidents, ESA Headquarters, IC Elected and Appointed Board, ESA Foundation Board, MARCettes, and 1st time Conference Attendees.

Denise Hagerty, Parliamentarian, moved to accept the Meeting Rules which were printed on page 16 of the Conference Booklet. Jill Richards seconded. Motion carried.

Linda Schmidt, Secretary, took a silent roll call and distributed the ballots to the State Presidents/MARC Representatives.

State	Members in State	Members Present	State President Present	State President Alternate	MARC Reps Present	MARC Reps Alternate
Illinois	356	11	1	0	2	0
Indiana	352	17	0	1	2	1
0	12	5	1	0	2	0
Kansas	376	11	1	0	1	1
Michigan	63	8	1	0	2	0
Minnesota	89	18	1	0	2	0

Nebraska	68	4	1	0	1	1
Ohio	83	9	0	1	2	0
Oklahoma	633	4	1	0	2	0
South Dakota	81	17	1	0	2	0
Wisconsin	74	5	1	0	1	1
Totals	2372	124	10	2	19	5

Guests: _____ 14 _____
 Pledges: _____ 0 _____
 First-Timers: _____ 15 _____
 MARCettes: _____ 13 _____

Linda moved that we accept the minutes of the July 18, 2018 meeting as printed. Sharon Gardner, MO seconded the motion. There was discussion concerning the fact that a motion was not captured by Linda Schmidt, Secretary at the meeting during IC Convention due to excess noise and discussion. Judy King, OH made the motion in July. Motion defeated.

Brenda Myers, OH moved to amend the minutes from July, 2018 meeting to include the motion that was made to reimburse the South Dakota Convention Committee for the discounted amount of \$25 per person who registered by September 11, 2018, totaling \$3,025.00. Kathleen Grissom, IL seconded the motion. Motion carried. Linda suggested that motions be written and given to the Secretary to help with accuracy.

There was no correspondence.

Brenda Fields, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report.

Beginning Balance, 7/13/17	
\$28,913.48	
Receipts/Income	\$ 125.00
Disbursements/Expenses	\$ 3,125.70
Balance on Hand as of 10/12/18	\$25,912.78

Rose Wagner, OH asked if we should keep these kinds of balances since we are non-profit. Brenda Fields responded that we made donations to a number of charities - MARC

purple heart fund, Easter Seals, Fund Fest, etc. totaling \$8,722,20. The Treasurers Report is attached to the minutes.

Brenda Fields presented the proposed 2018 - 2019 MARC Budget. Brenda Fields moved that we accept the proposed budget as printed. Kim Poling seconded the motion and motion carried. The Proposed Budget is attached to the minutes.

Angie Butenschoen, Jr. Past President, gave the Nominations Report.

President	Deb Vercellono, NE
Vice President/President Elect	Linda Schmidt, KS
Secretary	Brenda Fields, MO
Treasurer	Denise Hagerty, IN
	Bonnie Templeton,
	KS
Parliamentarian	Rhonda Rawlings, IL
	Rose Wagner, OH
Communicators	Mary Hougland, IN
	Kim Poling, IA
Jr. Past President	Celeste Webb, IL

Election Tellers are Aletha Bolt, OK, Heather Hoey, MI and Val Priebe, WI. Ballots are to be counted and the results will be given to Angie Butenschoen.

Julene Donnay, Hope for Heroes Chair reported that she was honored to serve in this capacity. She was impressed with all the different projects from the states - Pillow cases made for veterans - OK; Dinners served in honor of the vets - IN; Coupon Clipping, IL, KS, and more; Camps for Vets and Children, IL, MO, WI; Wine and Beer Tasting projects - MN; Welcome home projects - MO, MN; Wreaths across American - MI, MN; Travel size products Zip it up for our Heroes and Tied fleece blankets - KS. Julene spoke about our activities for Hope for Heroes at MARC - We made plarn, and donated items for Christmas shopping for the vets. Gift cards were given as well. She played an interesting, quick video from the state of IL about helping the Vets.

Rich Peterson, ALSAC Representative reported that he used to be a regional director but now is our ALSAC Representative. He is grateful to be a part of ESA and is grateful because of all that we have done. St. Jude is the house of ESAs according to Rich. They are grateful for all of our support. He showed a video that detailed all that we have done in the past, including footage of Danny Thomas. He then showed a Red Frog Proton Therapy Center, proton laser therapy treatment video. It took 4 years to build the building and is already making a difference with the

patients. Treatment includes a pencil sized laser beam which hones in on the tumor more accurately. St. Jude is our home and Rick is excited to see us at St. Jude during IC Convention in July 2019, to see what we have helped with.

Lurene Conner, ESA Foundation Chair reported that we received a Para award from the Foundation. \$21,038.64 is the MARC Purple Heart Endowment balance and allows a \$1,000 scholarship in 2019. \$22,897.07 is the MARC Endowment allows us to give a \$1,300 scholarship in 2019. The funds raised from the quilt raffle this weekend will be divided between two scholarships.

Pick up magnets with ESA Foundation Scholarship info and dates from Kim Mandrell to give to high school counselors.

See Rosalee Echele to become a Life Active Member for the ESA Foundation. She does have the credit card to sign up today. She also presented a video about the Life Active Membership for the Foundation. This helps build the grants program and fund the grants. If you are already a life active member please recruit new Live Active Members. We will announce the new Life Active Members in Memphis. Approximately 16 people became Life Active Members at the Conference.

Jill Richards, Ways & Means Chair, thanked everyone for having tables at the Market Place and to those who shopped there. There were many great items for sale. We have the Reverse Raffle Project only this year for Ways and Means since we have extra money in our MARC Treasury. We raised \$540 with half going to Jaycee Peak, IN.

Denise Hagerty, Parliamentarian presented the by-laws proposals:

Standing Rule: Article II Section A

ADD - #9 Shall assign an individual to prepare and present the Flag Ceremony at the MARC Conference

REASON: Last year we deleted the Senior Past President who handled the Flag Ceremony.

Motion was made to approve the standing rule by Denise. Coming from committee needs no second. Motion carried.

Standing Rule: Article II Section D-6

AMEND - Now Reads - Shall present a proposed budget for the new council year to the general board at the MARC meeting at the International Convention, which shall be printed in the August issue of reMARCS and voted on at the annual leadership conference.

CHANGE - To Read - Shall present a proposed budget for the new council year to the general board at the MARC meeting at the International Convention, have it published on the MARC website prior to International Convention and shall be printed in the August issue of reMARCS and voted on at the annual leadership conference.

REASON: To avoid printing of so many copies for the IC Convention and the MARC Conference, saving on printing expenses.

Motion was made to approve the standing rule by Denise. Coming from committee needs no second. Motion carried.

Standing Rule: Article III

ADD - E. Webmaster

1. To maintain the MARC Website

REASON: It is an appointed office and needs to be listed as such in the Standing Rules.

Motion was made to approve the standing rule by Denise. Coming from a committee needs no second. Motion carried.

Audit Committee is Jill Schull, IL and Pam Mitchell, KS. They will be auditing the books following our business meeting.

The Election results were given by Angie Butenschoen. President, Deb Vercellono, Vice President/President Elect, Linda Schmidt, Secretary, Brenda Fields, Treasurer, Denise Hagerty, Parliamentarian, Rhonda Rawlings, Co-Communicators - Mary Hougland and Kim Poling, and Jr. Past President, Celeste Web.

Lighting up the Queen City, Cincinnati, OH 2019 MARC Conference details were presented by Judi Grefer and Brenda Myers, Conference Chairs. It will be held October 11th and 12th, 2019 in Embassy Suites on the OH River in Covington. Room rates are \$159.00 for Kings with a Sleeper Sofa, with complimentary parking, WIFI, Breakfast and a Manager's Reception. There are lots of restaurants and things to see and do - Jack Casino and breweries all around town. Traveling to KY should be on your bucket list if it isn't already. They showed a Blink Cincinnati video, which is a 4-day festival that will go on while we are there. It is free to the public. The Workshop theme is Rounding 3rd and Heading for Home, and is all about Hope.

Peggy Zimmer and Mary Hougland are the Conference Chairs for the 2020 MARC Conference to be held in Indiana. The location is still to be determined. As soon as they know something, they will get the info to us.

Following our break Brenda Fields, Denise Hagerty, Celeste Webb and Deb Vercellono will be going to US Bank to transfer the Treasurer's account to Denise and Deb.

Winners of Full Registration were IA - Sandy Anderson, IL - Rhonda Rawlings, IN - Jaycee Peak, KS - Debbie Smith, MI - LeAnn Wray, MN - Judy Cummings, MO - Rosalee Echele, NE - Sharon Holtgrewe, OH - Sandy Fuller, OK - Joe Bussey, SD - Sandie Sullivan, WI - Val Priebe. Checks were distributed immediately.

We broke for lunch - Let's Taco 'bout ESA with a taco bar and lots of discussion about ESA.

Kim Kummer, IC President gave the IC Message. She encouraged membership recruitment and suggested we knock on doors and ask them to join ESA. Kim's focus this year is on Kid's Causes and she plans to add a Kid's Causes Chairperson on her Board. If you want to serve on the IC Board please contact Terri Olsen. Kim reminded us to take time for ourselves and have a peaceful pause. She encouraged us to give ourselves one regularly and often. Also, she wants our goal to raise money for St. Jude this year to be \$300 Million.

Kim and the IC Executive Board Members presented a skit, inviting everyone to the 2019 IC Convention in Memphis, TN, *Merriment & Memories* from July 17th - 21st. We will be staying at the Sheraton Hotel across from the Convention Center. There is a trolley line right outside the door to take you to Beall Street and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Workshops include Hope for Heroes, Learning to Gift Wrap, Flavor of Memphis, and History of Music and Elvis. There will also be crafts and puzzles for you to do in your spare time. St. Jude tours will be held Monday - Wednesday by appointment.

Conference Report given by Barb Campbell.

MARC Members	137
Non-MARC Attendees	4
DESA/ELANS	0
Guests	14
Room Reservations - Wednesday	0
Thursday	50

Friday	55
Saturday	54
Sunday	0

Leadership	134
Friday Luncheon	134
Mixer	139
Saturday Luncheon	137
Banquet	151

Bonnie Templeton, Chaplain, presented a beautiful Celebration of Life, honoring all those MARC members who passed since October 2017 - October 2018.

Celeste Webb gave her Closing Remarks. She thanked the MARC Board for their hard work of cutting costs and listening to the members. She also thanked the SD state members for all their hard work on the wonderful Conference weekend. Celeste encouraged all of us to stay strong.

The MARC Executive Board made a donation in Celeste's honor to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Judy Huntly, IL lowered Celeste's gavel; and Deb Frahm and Sharon Holtgrewe raised Deb Vercellono's gavel.

The MARCettes presented the Induction of Celeste Webb into the MARCettes - lead by Angie Butenschoen. Everyone presented Celeste with things that the MARCettes think of her with hashtags.

Announcements were given by Deb. The installation meeting by the installing officer, and the Exec Board and Appointed Board received the roster from Deb.

Closing Thought and a prayer were given by Bonnie Templeton.

Retiring of the Flags, Jaime Atchison

Conference Adjourned at 2:35 pm and the closing ritual was said by all.



From Your Parliamentarian Rhonda Rawlings

Do you know where Robert's Rules came from? There was an engineering officer in the Army named Henry Martyn Robert. Without warning he was asked to preside over a public meeting and he realized that he did not know how. He tried anyway and he was totally embarrassed. This even left Henry determined to never to attend another meeting until he knew something about parliamentary law.

He studied the few books that were available at that time and due to his military duties, he transferred to various parts of the United States. He found that each member from a different area of the country had differing ideas on how to conduct a meeting. To bring order out of chaos, he decided to write *Robert's Rules of Order*, as it came to be called.

Following *Robert's Rules of Order* really does help to maintain order. It's important that we remember to not talk over one another, etc. so that motions, amendments and the passing thereof, are correctly captured by the recording secretary.

From Your Ways & Means Chair Sandy Hongerholt

Greetings!

Looking forward to serving as your Ways and Means Chair for the 2018-2019 MARC Year. If you have any ideas, questions, suggestions or comments, please contact myself, shongerholt@yahoo.com or Jill Shull, jillshull@gmail.com.

From Your Past Ways & Means Chair Jill Richards

Happy Fall y'all!! And what a funtastic time we had in Sioux Falls at the "Party on the Plains" celebrating the 33rd MARC Conference. Everyone that played a part in getting it together give yourself a big pat on the back. You did good!!!

A GREAT BIG thank you to everyone that participated in the Marketplace on Friday. We had a great turnout with so many neat items offered. Hopefully you took the time to shop before heading out to see the sites, shops, and pubs. Wasn't the pub crawl and shopping crawl fun?!?!?



Also, thank you to all that participated in the Ways & Means Project this year. Jaycee Peak, the winner, was able to pay it forward with her monies. Congratulations to Jaycee!!

I want to thank Sandy, Celeste, Kim and Tarah for their help this past year. I could not have done this without you four. I know that Sandy will do a great job.

I am looking forward to being your MARC Chaplain in the year ahead.

Jill Richards

From Your Past Foundation Counselor Lurene Connor

As I turn the ESA Foundation Counselor reins over to Deb Hughes, I thank state counselors and presidents for your help in selling the tickets for the two afghans and St. Jude fabrics quilt to benefit the MARC Endowment and MARC Hope for Heroes Endowment. Both scholarships were earned by South Dakota students this year.

Contribution forms have been completed for each person who wrote a check and for the bank check covering the cash. The \$1428.00 total was divided between the two endowments with each receiving \$714.00. I truly appreciate all who helped.

During Foundation meetings at IC in Phoenix, a PowerPoint presentation highlighted all scholarship recipients and the scholarships they received for the 2018-2019 school year. Rosalee Echele edited that presentation to share the

MARC recipients. Even I was surprised how many there were.

Again, thank you for all your help.

Lurene Connor, Illinois
2017-2018 ESA Foundation Counselor

From Your Web Master Debbie Frazier

Welcome to a new ESA MARC Year! I would like to thank Deb Vercellono for giving me the privilege & opportunity to serve another year as the MARC Web Master. I am here to serve all the MARC members & help with getting communications out to the organization.

If anyone has submissions they would like to have uploaded to the site or suggestions for things to add/change on the site, please don't hesitate to send them to me. I'll do what I can to get them updated and/or put on the site.

Please check out the web site & let me know if you see anything that needs updated or corrected. I want the info on the site to be accurate & informational.

Check out the pictures of the Elected Board on the Home Page. 😊 😊

Hope everyone has a great 2018-2019 year. Best wishes to Deb Vercellono & her Board.

ESA Love, Hugs, & Friendship,
Deb Frazier

From Your Past MARC President Celeste Webb

“Thank you is the best prayer that anyone could say. I say that one a lot. Thank you expresses extreme gratitude, humility, understanding.” –Alice Walker



Thank you does not seem nearly enough when I think of all the hard work and efforts that went into the 2018 MARC Conference.

The words by Alice Walker convey what I want to say about the “Party on the Plains” held in Sioux Falls on October 12 and 13th. I want you to know I am

extremely grateful to the South Dakota State Council for all you did to provide a wonderful weekend of fun, educational, bonding, entertainment, and sisterhood. I believe everyone had at least one great experience that weekend. Maybe it was something learned from one of the speakers or during the making of the plan for the veterans. Maybe it was getting a chair massage or dancing or seeing the candidates in action. We all can share a great memory about the Party on the Plains. Thank you, South Dakota.

Serving on the MARC board for the past several years has opened up many new experiences. It was a chance to grow and meet new people. Our organization offers different things to different people. Sometimes we have to take a leap of faith and try something new. I encourage all of you to take that leap. As the past MARC president, I will be seeking members to run for office next fall. Please give this some careful consideration. You won't be sorry. We did good things last year with our donations to our projects. We made the MARC Conference a little less expensive and a little more accessible. We had fun! We hope to continue this trend so everyone can experience a MARC Conference. Until next time, Carpe Diem!

Celeste Webb

WHAT'S HAPPENING STATE TO STATE



Illinois

Hello from Illinois where one minute the leaves are a beautiful golden, reddish color on the trees and the next... they are all down on the ground!

Illinois members recently returned from our fantastic "Party on the Plains". We Congratulate Rhonda Rawlings, Delta Xi, Neoga on being voted our new 2018-2019 MARC Parliamentarian and we say "THANK YOU" and "Job Well Done" to our outgoing MARC President Celeste Webb, Omega Nu, Mattoon, for your leadership and for an outstanding year! We, also, welcome our new MARC Reps for 2018-2019: Judy Huntley, Delta Chi and Amanda Tullis, Gamma Chi.

Illinois members have been 'hitting the pavement running' with our October Events. On the 6th, we held the Fall Meeting and Workshop, followed by Xi Chi's October 11th Quarters Auction. There was also a Trivia Night Fundraiser for St. Jude on October 27th and Omega Nu hosted their first Witches Walk, also on the 27th.

November finds us being THANKFUL to EACH AND EVERY VETERAN! In our various Chapters, we collect new Socks for Soldiers and distribute them overseas (courtesy of our Xi Chi Chapter) and to our Veteran's Homes and the homeless shelters. We wrap up this event in December with a visit to the Marion VA hospital with the Xi Chi Chapter.

Illinois wishes all our MARC States a very blessed Thanksgiving and a Joyous Christmas/Holiday Season...till the next time!

Kathleen Grissom, State President

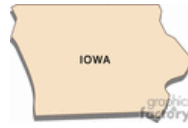


Indiana

Congratulations to the newly elected board and a big shout out to our Indiana sisters on their positions; Denise Hagerty, Treasurer and Mary Hougland, Co-Communicator!

Indiana enjoyed the "Party on the Plains" and has brought back information to share with our state. Thanks for all the hard work that was put into making MARC Conference a success.

Stacey Brummett & Dee Hess IN MARC Reps



Iowa

Five of us traveled to Sioux Falls for the MARC Conference and what a time we had! Making “plarn”, enjoying some amazing speakers and just enjoying each other’s company and the company of all those around us, old friends and new! I



love seeing my ESA sisters from all over the Midwest and have made some connections at these conferences that I know will last a lifetime. If you have never been to an ESA Conference or Convention please go. You will never regret it!

As the holiday season approaches, we here in Iowa are dreaming of warmer weather and ESA events that we will hold in the spring. Plans are in the making for a rushing event, the Alpha Betas and the Illinois Irregulars are gearing up for another Competitive Cowboy Shoot Charity Event for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, and we have reserved a cabin in the woods for our state convention in May.

On a personal note, I am looking forward to serving as Co-Communicator with Mary Hougland for another year! I love reading your articles and keeping up with what is going on in all of the MARC states. It gives me great pleasure to play a role in sharing all of your stories.

Wishing all of you a very Merry Christmas and a most blessed New Year from your Iowa Sisters in ESA

Kim Poling, State President



Kansas

“The Kaleidoscope of ESA”, is moving right along in Kansas. Our Summer Meeting in Great Bend was a success. We had a Hope for Heroes Weekend. We tied 38 colorful fleece blankets and collected 150 “Zip It Up” toiletry bags for our Kansas Veterans. The Bob Dole Veteran’s Center in Wichita was quite happy. We all enjoyed a Workshop presented on Quilts of Valor. That is an amazing honor that these ladies create for our Veterans.





In October, thirteen of us traveled to Sioux Falls, SD for the MARC Conference. Thank you to these gals, because we ALL had a great time. MARC does it well, with great Workshops, Leadership, and FUN. The *dueling pianos* - (makes us smile, still today.)

Our Fall Meeting is at Heartspring in Wichita. This is one of our State projects, to raise money for special needs children. We will be meeting on Veteran's Day, and celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Ending of World War 1, with Taps being played by Michelle Bingheim. It marks the 11th day, at the 11th hour, of the 11th Month, around the world, and is called the Sounds of Remembrance 1918-2018! Michelle and I are planning this as a surprise, so we hope it works out well...

Kansas is thankful to have 2 St. Jude Dream Homes again this year and our goal is to celebrate our first year over a \$Million.

On September 22, 2018 we celebrated Gamma Omicron's 70th Anniversary of their Charter, in Manhattan KS. Congratulations to that Chapter - I can't imagine all of those hours!

We have many Chapters in Kansas, doing great things locally as well as the "big" projects!

We wish you all the very best Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year!

Cindy Ewy, President



Michigan

What an awesome time we had at the MARC Convention, Party on the Plains. Great job South Dakota! Wonderful rooms, good food, and interesting speakers with informative topics.

Michigan is busy with various projects. We volunteered for the St. Jude Walk in Detroit and Ann Arbor recently. So heartwarming to see how many give up a few hours of their time to raise money for the St. Jude's Research Hospital. We are in the process of selling tickets for Hope for Heroes evening at a comedy club with proceeds going to the

Wounded Warrior Project. This evening of fun will also include a silent auction.

The Michigan Council has purchased table top Christmas trees and decorations to be auctioned with proceeds going to Children's Hospital of Michigan in the Festival of Trees celebration at Ford Community & Performing Arts Center. Wishing all of you a blessed holiday season with good health, happiness and peace.

Eva Hatt and Pattie Wieber
Michigan MARC Representatives



Minnesota

As I am writing this, the leaves are raining down from the beautiful maple in my front yard. The Halloween princesses and ghosts will soon be shuffling through the piles making their way to my door for the yearly treats. Minnesota ESA's tree is green and growing as it progresses through the 2018-19 year.

The first State meeting of the year was held in September. It was a bit different as the host Chapter served breakfast, then the meeting. Here is a brief listing of the "summer vacation" happenings either participated in or organized by members: St. Jude Theater of Dreams, Warrior Dash, Ride and 5K Run, and Cruisin' for St. Jude (Alpha Zeta), working grocery store snack bars, serving youth meals, among other activities.

The State Leadership road trip was held in August. MN ESA toured the Hormel Food Corporation's Spam Museum in Austin MN. It is worth a stop if you are in the area. A time mix up delayed the scheduled tour of Daisy Blue Natural Products. While waiting, another small business woman, Kim Olson of Grandma's Gourmets (pickles and jellies, plus), opened up to an impromptu tour of her processes and products. We were treated to samples and allowed to purchase product. Smart marketing. Then we got the same treatment from Daisy Blue Naturals. After Friday dinner, we met at the Marion Ross Performing Art Center to see "Vegas Guys". Saturday was a presentation on safeguarding our homes, a craft sale and making bags for the homeless out of all those T-shirts you don't wear.

Association of the Arts Chair is encouraging the membership to draw on their creative abilities and participate in the

“fundraisers” she is organizing and bring prospective members with you.

Hats for Hope is collecting baby needs, socks, food and pet food over the year to donate to local charities as well as toiletries and winter clothing.

Hope for Heroes is participating in assembling care packages for soldiers in conjunction with a local Elks Club. It is important to remember that partnering with another organization can broaden ESA’s reach.

St. Jude’s activities this fall include the Fall Festival of Hope, the Walk/Run to End Childhood Cancer, the Style Show and Silent Auction, the K102 Cares Radiothon and the Red Carpet for Hope. MN ESA will or did participate in all of these activities among others.

Welcome Home Vets is a State project. This organization helps furnish homes for veterans in need. MN ESA can donate items or help deliver and set up donations at the veteran’s home. There will be a wine tasting/silent auction to raise funds for this charity.

After a hiatus for a year or two, our Easter Seals chair organized a vintage fashion show to benefit Easter Seals/Goodwill.

MN ESA continues to provide monthly meals for the homeless served by Hope4Youth and organize helpers for the related Hope’s Closet Clothing store, a resell shop benefiting Hope4 Youth.

Chapters are participating with the State in these activities, plus doing their own things, but it would fill twenty pages to talk about it all.

In addition to the above, MN ESA continues to make medical kits to raise funds for various projects.

Beta Sigma president, Eileen Spencer, says true friendship has three ingredients, caring, honesty, kindness and trust. Just a nice thought.

Please read the EsSAy on the MM Website www.mnesa.com for all the other wonderful things Minnesota ESA is doing.

Diane Vanusek and Dana Terry - Minnesota MARC Reps



Nebraska

What a fantastic time we all had at our State Convention in Grand Island, NE. Two fantastic representatives - Bonnie Templeton/MARC and Robin Bussey/IC. They both presented programs and information that were informative. Nebraska is looking forward to the upcoming MARC meeting in October as Deb Vercellono will be going in as MARC President!!!!

We are like a lot of states with dwindling members that we only had 30 at our convention. But you know, it is not only the numbers that one counts- it is the membership and what they bring to the weekend. At our mixer we had the opportunity to watch "The Best of Carol Burnett". What a fantastic way to kick off the weekend. Remember when.....

A beautiful flag ceremony was presented by IC Rep, Robin Bussey. The mayor of Grand Island presented his welcome. Throughout convention, President - Deb Frahm, had us doing activities (i.e. Drawing a tree). The members thoroughly enjoyed the video from Executive Director, Charlotte Carloni, welcoming everyone to convention.

Members brought items for the Easter Seal Camp and there was way too much stuff to fit into one vehicle - which was good. The chapters also brought their heart pillows that they made which were gave to the vet hospital in Omaha.

Betty Ziska from Atkinson, NE., is attempting to start a chapter and if anyone knows of anyone in that area, please let someone in our state know. We are excited and hope that she is able to accomplish this task.

Deb presented a very special award to Joan Monson, who has been a member of ESA for 69 years. Dora Dill read information about those many years and the state presented her with a wrist corsage. Marilyn Geier was presented the "Inspire" award from IC Representative, Robin Bussey.

Like I said prior, it isn't that numbers that one looks at - it is the participation and inspiration that each member brings to the weekend along with Love and Friendship.

Dora Dill, Nebraska MARC Rep

Nebraska News by Chapter

Alpha Nu and Beta Sigma celebrated Founders' Day with a luncheon at the restaurant Charleston's in Omaha. Fun, food and lots of chatting were enjoyed by all.

Beta Omega will be celebrating their Chapter's 50th anniversary this year. Donna Talbot is a charter member and received her 50-year pin at state convention. At their May meeting they had a salad supper to celebrate their chapter and member's birthdays. They also do a small plant gift exchange and install their new officers.

Gamma Delta sponsored their fifth annual Bowl-A-Thon. Joannie Roehrs and committee did a great job of coordinating this fund raiser. Lots of bowlers and raffle items generated \$4,500 for the "We Can Do This" organization which supports the "F" Street Community Center. These funds will be used to feed the children that come to the center on Saturday and Sunday. For some kids this is the only meal they will get for that day. Gamma Delta also worked with the "We Can Do This" organization and donated pizza for their monthly birthday celebration.

Members of the Gamma Delta Chapter traveled to the Nebraska State Capitol to receive the ESA Proclamation signed by Governor Pete Ricketts celebrating ESA Week on May 6, 2018. Thank you to Joan Snyder for coordinating this event.

June has been a busy month for Gamma Delta. Robin Johnson held a chapter garage sale at her house on June 9. The \$600 raised will be distributed to local charities. On June 23 we sold hotdogs for St. Jude. The Super Saver grocery store in Lincoln, NE allows nonprofit organizations to raise funds in front of their store for a charity of our choice. Of course, we chose St. Jude and sold hotdog, chips and drink for a \$3 meal. What a deal!! The \$300 raised will go to St. Jude.

Have a wonderful summer and see you in Phoenix.

Debbie Vercellono
Nebraska MARC Rep



Ohio

Nine Ohio members were able to attend the MARC conference in Sioux Falls. We want to thank Tarah, Kim and all of South Dakota for a fabulous weekend! We were especially impressed with the speakers and workshops! We had much to bring home with us and left exhausted and inspired! Congratulations to Debbie and her new board. We know you will have a great year. Thanks to Celeste and her board for a wonderful conference.



All of us have been busy this fall as our new ESA year begins. Our Fall Leadership and Council Meeting, led by President Amanda, was a great mix of Fun, Fellowship and Learning. Of course, there was a little business and a lot of Food! We were inspired by the work being done by Terry Smith and her organization “One City Against Heroin”. Her purpose and passion were contagious. We also met Hannah Valz from the Alzheimer’s Association. Hannah spoke about the disease itself and how it affects the mind and body. She shared some of the events they hold to raise awareness and volunteer opportunities at Ohio affiliates.



Ohio Fall Leadership

There were three St. Jude Walks in Ohio and local chapters in the Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati area were able to participate. We were so proud to support ESA’s Walk Goal and of course had a fabulous time doing it! In October Ohio members look forward to Sigma Chi’s Shop for St. Jude event and this year was no disappointment. It looked like there was a lot of Christmas shopping going on!



There are many more events and celebrations planned by all our chapters this year. And of course, we will be making big plans to welcome you to Ohio in October 2019. We’ll keep you informed as we challenge ourselves to Be the Change!

Amanda Rowland, President
Brenda Meyers & Shirley Krcmar, MARC Reps



South Dakota

10 months of preparation + 28 wedding gowns = 1 fabulous ‘She Said Yes to the Dress’ event! This vintage wedding dress fashion show - our Theta Omega fundraiser for Relay for Life - once again captivated our local community. Moreover, we topped three old records and set inspirational new ones! Yes, we set new records for featured gowns (28), guests in attendance (258), and money raised (\$5100!). Needless to say, we are thrilled and awestruck by these amazing outcomes! Our delightful parade of wedding gowns ranged from a fun and flirty Flapper gown (complete with original cloche hat!) from 1927 to a contemporary beaded and ruched gown from 2016. The array spanned 10 decades and included three lovely dresses from our own chapter (those worn by Carol Geu, Brenda Fergen, and Wendy Nilson). It also featured the sparkly appliqued gown worn in 1989 by our state president, Kim Berven (she was a child bride!)



Kim's involvement was a special highlight - a dream come true, in fact! Here is what Kim had to say about her experience...

This event was a true walk down Memory Lane. As the different eras were showcased, my mind wandered to family and friends who are a bit (or a lot) older than I, wondering if their dresses were similar. Hearing the stories of how some of the former brides met their husbands and special events of their day brought the gowns to life. It was shocking to say the least to see my own dress walk down the aisle on a (super skinny) beautiful young lady. (I only wish I knew how my train disappeared those 29 years ago.) Thank you, Theta Omega, for honoring me with this pleasure and a way to support Relay for Life.

State President, Kim Berven



Wisconsin

Wisconsin loved the MARC Conference in Sioux Falls...the Leadership Speakers, the WINEO game, the food, Dueling Pianos, and the wonderful opportunities to visit with long-time friends and to meet new ones. Special memories will be; learning how to make sleeping mats out of plastic shopping bags, the Marketplace, Kim Mandrell "enjoying" the music at the Banquet, Sioux Falls downtown, and driving in a blizzard to get back to Wisconsin.

A BIG Thank you to South Dakota ESAers for all the thought and work that was done to give MARC a wonderful weekend. Also.....Thank you to the MARC Board for a well-run meeting. We are already looking forward to being in Cincinnati, Ohio next October.

Chapters in Wisconsin are involved in their plans for Hope for Heroes projects for November's Veterans Day. Beta Omicron is giving each veteran, at a local apartment shelter, a package with socks, winter hat, gloves, and a Thank You for your Service card. Most chapters will donate to Food Pantries and/or Thanksgiving Baskets. Personal Care items will be donated to a Girls, Inc. group at a local Community Center. Members will be answering phones at the St. Jude Radiothons in both Madison and Milwaukee in early December.

Here's wishing for a Very Happy Holiday Season to all!!!

Val Priebe
Wisconsin State President

A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR SOUTH DAKOTA MARC CONFERENCE HOSTS

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart for being part of MARC. If you came to South Dakota I hope you had an amazing time. I know I did. I wish I had more time to visit with you all but I once again I had an opportunity to build bonds and make more new friends. I truly appreciate you all and South Dakota appreciates your support. I wanted to share a few things that you all did for people of South Dakota.

First of all, by just enjoying your first evening there with a great massage you gave \$265 for the St Francis House, our local transitional housing project for homeless. Through your giving for Hope for Heroes you gave a suburban FULL of Christmas Gifts for Veterans to "shop" (at no cost) for their families this Christmas along with \$500 in cash and gift cards, to help the American Legion Auxiliary ship the gifts for them as well. I've noticed some of you already working on making sleeping matts for the homeless in your area and am so glad we had the opportunity to share that project with you all. Thank you all for sharing your fun pictures from the MARC conference on Facebook.

Now the South Dakota chapters are off and running planning and hosting so many great events, Winner chapter, Beta Alpha will be having a Show and Sell in a couple of weeks, many of the chapters are already started on Christmas projects to support those who are less fortunate in our communities and the Dell Rapids chapter, Alpha Chi is talking about bringing back their wine tasting event to support St Jude and the local community the end of February. The week after MARC Conference one of our great Vermillion chapters, Theta Omega, hosted a unique event that was truly entertaining but for me quite a walk down memory lane. I hope you enjoy the article about the event and get some inspiration to try something similar. I know Trudy Zalud (look her up on Facebook messenger) would answer any questions you have about the event. It is truly a passion of hers.

Thank you again for coming to South Dakota and for making MARC special for me.

Kim Berven
South Dakota State President.

Thank you, sisters and brothers, for a wonderful conference! I know you traveled far to make it and we really appreciate you coming to support the MARC Conference. We all know MARC offers a unique membership experience and we appreciate your efforts in helping us grow and improve the conference. Your presence helped to make this event a great success and your enthusiasm and positive spirit helped make our time together both productive and fun.



I've been told our Leadership was in short "fantastic" and it truly warmed my heart to hear such positive feedback! I cannot express my full thanks to the wonderful women who truly made a Leadership everything Kim and I imagined. Becky's educational on sex trafficking, Theresa's

workshop on sleeping mats for vets, and one of my favorite role models, sweet and enthusiastic Elaine. We had a vision of what we would want out of a Leadership and these ladies exceeded our expectations.

I hope you all had as much fun as we did! The friendships that continue to grow on this annual weekend are by far my favorite part of attending MARC. Each one of your just by being here made the weekend a true PARTY! In my opinion, seeing all of you engaged in the leadership, sharing laughs and plenty of beverages, and killing it on the dance floor all made the exhaustion Kim and I endured worth it.

The weather didn't cooperate as much as we had hoped throughout the weekend but at least all attendees can say they experienced a true taste of South Dakota.

We wish you all the best and hope that you continue to be engaged with the leadership you received during the conference. *I hope you all remember your visit to South Dakota fondly and we hope to see you back in 2030!*

*Tarah Eliason
2018 Conference Chair*

Stay tuned for upcoming MARC Conference information by our wonderful sisters in Ohio!

MORE NEWS FROM ALL AROUND

TERI OLSON IC FIRST VICE PRESIDENT



In early October, I sent a note to all 2018-2019 State Presidents and all 2019-2020 Incoming State Presidents letting them know that Nominations for an elected IC Office are due just around the corner.

Being on the IC elected board is not a huge commitment and it really is a lot of fun as well as a great chance to enhance your skills. IC nominations need to be submitted to me by **November 15th, 2018**. If you're not interested in running for an IC elected office, perhaps you know someone in your state that would like to receive a bit of encouragement from you to consider stepping up to this opportunity.

The nomination form with instructions for completion are on the ESA International website listed on Member Center / Chapter/Council Mgmt / Forms / International Council Forms / Nomination Form.

If you have any questions, please let me know; I'm happy to help - just send me an email or give me a call.

Cheers,
Terri

ESA Headquarters Membership Director Tracy Swanson

New Resource Available from ESA HQ

Every quarter, ESA Headquarters mails a roster packet to all chapter treasurers containing the chapter's roster AND a chapter newsletter outlining important information and program announcements from ESA HQ. This newsletter is now available to ALL members in the member center of the ESA website www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/NewsForChapters, get all the latest!

Tracy Swanson
Membership Director