

GSC Fall Board Meeting

Georgia State Council
Epsilon Siga Alpha International



GSC Fall Board Meeting – Bremen, GA
Sunday, September 17, 2023

The 2023 Georgia State Council (GSC) Fall Board meeting was held at the lovely Sewell Mill in Bremen, GA on Sunday, September 17th, 2023.

President Susan Garner called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

Pat Griffin, President of the chapter hosting Fall Board, welcomed everyone and took a moment to recognize her chapter, Alpha Delta.

Opening Thought: Chaplain, Luanne Langmo, shared an opening thought, called 'Welcome September'. 'New month, new chapter, new page and new wishes. May the month give you Courage, Strength, Confidence, Patience, Self-Love & Inner Peace. May every day in September fill your days with Hope, Love, Sunshine and Energy. Let there be Joy, Fun and Laughter.'

Second Vice President, Ruth Ann Edge presented the American Flag and led the membership in singing 'God Bless America' and reciting the 'The Pledge of Allegiance'.

President Susan Garner led the membership in the reciting of the Opening Ritual.

The first order of business was the reading of the Rules Governing a Georgia State Council Meeting by Parliamentarian, Susan McVey.

1. Obtaining the Floor:
Before a member can make a motion or address the assembly in debate, it is necessary that he/she obtain the floor, that is, they must rise after the floor has been yielded, and address the presiding officer by official title, state his/her name and chapter prior to addressing the assembly.
2. Motions and Resolutions:
After obtaining the floor a motion is made by saying: "I move ..." and then state the proposed action. If a motion is lengthy, it must be written and handed to the President/Chair.
3. Second Motions:
A second to a motion must come from a member of a chapter other than that which proposed the motion. To second a motion, the member must rise; state your name and chapter and say, "I second the motion."
4. Stating the Question:
When a motion has been made and seconded, it is the duty of the President/Chair, unless the motion has been ruled out of order, to immediately state the question that is before the assembly for its consideration and action.
5. Debate:
A delegate is limited to speaking twice on one motion. A Delegate's first speech shall be limited to two (2) minutes, debate to ten (10) minutes.

6. Time:

All reports and speeches will be limited to three (3) minutes unless previously cleared with the President/Chair.

Next, President Susan Garner gave special recognition to certain members in attendance.

- Our guest, Marge Ramirez (who came with Joy Lynn Tynes)
- Our 4 members who were attending a GSC meeting for the first time: Kathy Pruitt, Wren Pirkle, Sherry Giles and Deana Rosenbaum... all with Alpha Delta. (Donna Moore introduced them.)
- Our 4 pledges: Kathy Pruitt, Wren Pirkle, Sherry Giles and Deana Rosenbaum... with Alpha Delta.
- Our Member of the Year, Mary Cooper.
- Our Chapter of the Year, Delta Iota
- Our IC Past Presidents from Georgia: Kaye Genovese & Pat Griffin
- Our SERC Past Presidents from Georgia: Romanda Talley & Joy Lynn Tynes

The next order of business was Roll Call, by Recording Secretary, Venetia Lewallen.

<u>Executive Board</u>	<u>Present / Absent</u>
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President, Susan Garner	P
First Vice President, Susan Knudson	P
Second Vice President, Ruth Ann Edge	P
Recording Secretary, Venetia Lewallen	P
Corresponding Secretary, Kim New	P
Treasurer, Gail Marchant	P
Parliamentarian, Susan McVey	P
Jr. Past President, Wanda Price	P

<u>Appointed Board</u>	<u>Present / Absent</u>
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Administrative Assistant, Janiel Kozal	A
Administrative Assistant, Frances Lanier	A
Advisor, Gail Marchant	P
Advisor, Sherrie Bordeaux	P
Archives/Historian, Gail Marchant	P
Association of the Arts, Sharon Smoot	P
Auditor, Pat Griffin	P
Awards, Gail Marchant	P
Chaplain, Luanne Langmo	P
Credentials , Shirley Humphries	A
Disaster Fund, Wanda Price	P
Easterseals, Mary Cooper	P
Educational Director, Theresa McGugan	P
Finance Project, Sheryl Gootee	P
Foundation State Counselor, Sherry Presley	P
Flag Ceremony, Romanda Talley	P
Gavelette President, Sherry Presley	P
Hope for Heroes, Vicki Warren	P
Leadership Coordinator, Susan Garner	P
Newsletter, Kim New & Venetia Lewallen	P
Philanthropic, Kay Genovese	P
Photographer, Debbie Lamp'l	A
SERC Coordinator, Linda Long	P

Scrapbook Editor, Alpha Beta Chapter	P
Social Co-Chairman, Shirley Humphries	A
Social Co-Chairman, Marsha Stroud	A
St. Jude Coordinator, Romanda Talley	P
Web Master, Gennie Gilvin	P
Yearbook, Karen Smith	A

Committees Present / Absent

Awards Committee Chairman, Gail Marchant	P
Awards Committee, Gennie Gilvin	P
Budget Committee Chairman, Gail Marchant	P
Budget Committee, Susan Knudson	P
Budget Committee, Donna Moore	P
Bylaws Committee Chairman, Susan McVey	P
Bylaws Committee, Susan Knudson	P
Bylaws Committee, Vicki Warren	P
Contracts Committee Chairman, Gennie Gilvin	P
Contracts Committee, Susan Knudson	P
Contracts Committee, Karen Smith	A
Credentials Committee Chairman, Shirley Humphries	A
Credentials Committee, Susan Knudson	P
Membership Committee Chairman, Susan Knudson	P
Membership Committee, Ruth Ann Edge	P
Minutes Committee Chairman, Venetia Lewallen	P
Minutes Committee, Susan McVey	P
Minutes Committee, Susan Garner	P
Nominating Committee Chairman, Susan Knudson	P
Nominating Committee, Linda Long	P
Nominating Committee, Donna Moore	P

Chapter Roll Call

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Present / Absent</u>	<u># on Roll</u>	<u># Present</u>
Alpha Beta	Stormy Bowie	A	9	5
Alpha Delta	Pat Griffin	P	11	10
Alpha Nu	Connie Presley	A	3	1
Beta Kappa	Linda Long	P	3	2
Beta Sigma	Kaye Kinnebrew	A	-	-
Beta Zeta	Joy Lynn Tynes	P	1	1
Delta Iota	Susan Knudson	P	8	5
Delta Nu	Vicki Warren	P	2	2
Delta Omega	Sharon Smoot	P	3	2
Gamma Omega	Theresa McGugan	P	6	2
Gamma Sigma	Sandra Helton	A	-	-
Kappa Rho	Romanda Talley	P	8	2
Sigma Chi	Sherry Presley	P	3	2

Gavelettes Present / Absent

1979-80	Angela Coleman	A
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1980-81	Romanda Talley	P
1984-85	Kaye Genovese	P
1985-86	Pat Griffin	P
1986-87	Marsha Stroud	A
1994-95	Linda Long	P
1995-96	Susan Knudson	P
2000-01	Shirley Humphries	A
2003-04	Joy Lynn Tynes	P
2005-06	Gail Gilvin	A
2006-07	Karen Smith	A
2008-09	Connie Presley	A
2009-10	Susan McVey	P
2010-11	Gennie Gilvin	P
2011-12	Donna Moore	P
2012-13	Sherrie Bordeaux	P
2013-14	Gail Marchant	P
2014-15	Sherry Presley	P
2015-16	Frances Lanier	A
2016-17	Stormy Bowie	A
2017-18	Frances Jennings	P
2018-19	Debbie Glore	A
2019-20	Kim New	P
2020-21	Kim New	P
2021-22	Vicki Warren	P
2022-23	Wanda Price	P

<u>Invitational Past State Presidents</u>		<u>Present / Absent</u>
1981-82	Luanne Langmo (MI)	P
2001-02	Ruth Ann Edge (AL)	P

Next, President Susan Garner recognized our GSC members serving on the IC and SERC Boards.

International Council Board:

Romanda Talley – Nominating Committee

Southeastern Regional Council Board:

Susan Garner & Kim New - Association of the Arts Co-Chairs

Kim New – Bylaws Committee

Joy Lynn Tynes – Hotel Contracts Committee

Susan Knudson & Romanda Talley – 2023 Conference Co-Chairs

The next order of business was the Credentials Report. The Credential Chairman, Shirley Humphries, was not in attendance, so in her absence, the report was provided by Linda Long.

11 of 13 Chapters represented for a total of (All present were in good financial standing)	20 Chapter Votes
GSC Past President Votes	<u>16 Votes</u>
Total Votes	36

The next order of business was the reading of the minutes by Recording Secretary, Venetia Lewallen, from the 2023 GSC Convention and the Incoming Board Meetings, held on May 20th, 2023 at Little Ocmulgee Park. Venetia described that the minutes were approved by the Minutes Committee and published to the GSC Website. Venetia moved that we dispense with the reading of the minutes. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

The next order of business was the Treasurer's Report by the Treasurer, Gail Marchant. Gail reported that she received the books from Auditor Pat Griffin on August 9th, 2023 and was advised that they were in good order.

There was a carryover checking acct balance of	\$11,465.76
Income	1,890.00
Disbursements	1,372.38
Checking Account Balance as of September 15, 2023:	\$11,983.38
Savings Account Balance as of September 15, 2023:	\$6,347.29
Candidates Fund Account Balance as of September 15, 2023:	\$3,723.29
GSC Total Funds as of September 15, 2023:	\$22,053.96

The next order of business was the Registration Report by Donna Moore, our Meeting Registration Chairman. Donna reported that there were 11 of 13 chapters represented at the Fall Board meeting. There were 34 Members registered, 0 MALs (Members At Large) and 1 Guest, giving a meeting registration total of 35.

After a 10-minute break, the next order of business was the Membership Report, by Ruth Ann Edge, Second Vice President. Ruth Ann reported that there were 13 Active Chapters, with 12 in good standing, 59 Jewel Pin Members, 0 MAL members and 5 Pledges for a total of 64 Members.

The next order of business was the Elected Officers Reports.

President Susan Garner thanked the membership for allowing her to attend and represent Georgia at the IC Convention in Texas, back in July. Georgia had 6 members and 1 guest who attended. Susan was proud to share that the Georgia State Bag was raffled off for \$350 at the ESA Foundation Fun Fest. She had also submitted her painting of a pink rose in the Association of the Arts and was awarded 2nd place in Division 1 – Visual Arts..! Congratulations Susan..! Susan was honored again when she got to receive the FIRST PLACE award for Georgia for our 2022-2023 State News Bulletin – 5 Issues or More. Susan called up last year's GSC President, Wanda Price, to come forward and gave her the certificate for First Place. At the IC Convention Saturday night dinner, the St Jude totals were announced and Susan got to represent Georgia proudly again. Susan then described that the Contact List had been updated and a copy was placed in each Chapter Packet. Lastly, Susan described that the IC President Brenda Meyers' theme is 'Connect through ESA' and encouraged us to strive to connect with those around us.

First Vice President, Susan Knudson, described some of her time at the IC Convention. She had a great time and learned a lot, some of which she shared at Leadership yesterday ('The Power of Us' membership campaign). She reminded all members that October is recruitment month and encouraged all to have some sort of Rush event. Susan also attested to our GSC President Susan Garner participating in almost everything at IC Convention, including Axe Throwing, which she nailed... nailed the floor, that is. In preparing for next year, Susan distributed Willing to Serve forms and asked members to fill out and return to her no later than January 1, 2024. Susan also spoke of the GSC and IC membership count differences. IC reports Georgia with 64 Jewel Pin and 0 Pledge members, based on their definition of a 'pledge'. They define a pledge as a new member of 3 months or less. However, the GSC defines a pledge as a new member of 6 months or less. So, the GSC count is 59 Jewel Pin and 5 Pledge members. Also, IC shows Georgia with 22 MAL members, when actually we have none.

The next order of business was the Second Vice President Report, by Ruth Ann Edge. Ruth Ann shared that since GSC Convention in May, she has attended the Executive Board Retreat, worked at the Atlanta Dream Home and volunteered to help with the Trinkka Davis Ice Cream Party. Ruth Ann then reported on the upcoming GSC conventions.

2024 GSC Convention – May 17-19, 2024, Unicoi State Park and Lodge in Helen, GA
Hosted by Alpha Nu, Delta Nu and Sigma Chi
Local Convention Chair – Susan McVey (Sigma Chi)

2025 GSC Convention – (more information coming later)
Hosted by the Gavelettes
Local Convention Co-Chairs – Susan McVey (Sigma Chi) and Gennie Gilvin (Alpha Nu)

2026 GSC Convention – Ruth Ann encouraged all chapters to consider hosting this event. Bids are due at the GSC Mid-Year meeting.

Lastly, Ruth Ann reminded the membership that October was Recruitment month and when talking to prospective members, be ready to educate them on ‘Why ESA?’, the programs we support and the benefits of joining. She placed some ‘Why ESA?’ information in each Chapter Packet.

The next order of business was the Recording Secretary Report, by Venetia Lewallen. No report today.

The next order of business was the Corresponding Secretary Report, by Kim New. Kim reported that she had received a Thank You card addressed to the Georgia State Council. Kim read the card to the membership. It was from our President Susan, thanking GSC for sending her to the IC Convention and allowing her to represent Georgia. She would never forget it.

The next order of business was the Treasurer’s Report by Gail Marchant. Gail reported that this year she wanted to try and close the books by convention (May 17, 2024), so that the Treasurer’s books could be given to the Auditor sooner and then passed to the next Treasurer sooner. She asked that all members with a line item on this year’s budget to send vouchers and receipts to her by April 17, 2024. This gives a month for all checks to clear the bank before convention. Gail described that she will accept paper receipts (original or copied) or electronic copies of receipts in an email or text.

The next order of business was the Parliamentarian Report, by Susan McVey. No report today.

The next order of business was the Jr Past President Report, by Wanda Price. No report today.

The next order of business was the Appointed Board reports:

- 1- Association of the Arts Chair, Sharon Smoot invited members to get out of their comfort zone and do some art and submit it for Association of the Arts at the 2024 GSC Convention. She encouraged all to ‘Get your creative self ON’.
- 2- Auditor, Pat Griffin reported that she found the GSC Treasurer’s book for 2022-2023 to be in good order and commended officers for staying inside their budget. She also thanked some officers who used personal air miles for travel to save Georgia some money. Pat also reported that she audited the GSC 2023 Convention books and found them in good order. She gave a recommendation for future convention hosts to consider which will make the auditing process less complicated. If at all possible, have a different bank account for the convention account and keep it separate from the chapter account.
- 3- Awards Chair, Gail Marchant introduced a new award for this year, the Hope for Heroes Most Monies award. Alpha Delta will host the award, so all entries should be sent to the Alpha Delta President and they will present the new award at convention, as is currently done with the Hope

for Heroes Most Hours award. The GSC Website Awards page will be updated to include the new award.

Gail made a motion to approve the new Hope for Heroes Most Monies award. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Lastly, Gail reminded the membership that the hours, miles, values and monies submitted for all of the awards should pertain to only the past year's activities.

- 4- Disaster Fund Chair, Wanda Price reported that as of September 17, 2023, Georgia has had 5 chapters and 2 individual members donate to the ESA Disaster Fund. She thanked those who donated and asked every chapter to please donate. She instructed members to make checks out to the Disaster Fund and mail to her.
- 5- Finance Chair, Sheryl Gootee had reported yesterday at Leadership that we had our first Finance Project for 2023-2024 and raised \$150 in Pampered Chef sales and received \$300 worth of hostess gifts that will be raffled off or sold online to the highest bidder. She asked if anyone has any additional items for the online auction to please let her know. When bidding online, remember to always Reply All. Sheryl noted that Gamma Omega is planning to have a Bake Sale fundraiser for GSC Finance in October and Delta Omega has donated a quilt for raffle. She reminded that if any chapter does a fundraiser for GSC Finance, make checks out to Georgia State Council ESA and mail to her.

Sheryl Gootee
3504 Prosperity Hwy
Prosperity, SC 29127

- 6- Foundation Counselor, Sherry Presley shared information about joining and the different ways that members can support the ESA Foundation yesterday at Leadership. Sherry reported that this year's recipient of the Jean Johnson Scholarship was Cruz Guo, who attended Coahulla Creek High School in Dalton, GA. Sherry added information about the different ways to support the Foundation to every Chapter Packet.
- 7- Gavelette President, Sherry Presley reported that the Gavelettes had their meeting earlier this morning and are busy planning a 'Diamond Jubilee' for our 75th Convention in 2025.
- 8- Hope for Heroes Chair, Vicki Warren reported at Leadership yesterday and she introduced herself and her family's background in the Air Force, Dalton Police Dept, Patriot Guard Riders and more. Vicki described the monthly Ice Cream Socials at Trinka Davis Veterans Home in Carrollton. These events are hosted by the Patriot Guard Riders each month on the 3rd Saturday at 1:00pm, and they could use some help with serving the ice cream and socializing with the residents. Several chapters have already helped out and donated their time for this monthly event in July and August. Vicki noted that if a member did not live near this veteran's home, there are other Patriot Guard Rider groups and other VFW's or American Legions across the state. She can put you in contact with a Patriot Guard Rider group if you cannot make it to Carrollton and this is something you would like to do. Vicki also mentioned the Wreaths Across America project that needs volunteers and donations to help to honor our veterans. She reported that the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton receives an overflowing amount of wreaths each year, where the Marietta National Cemetery only receives enough wreaths to cover a quarter of the graves. So, Vicki encouraged members, if possible, to consider donating and volunteering to place wreaths to the Marietta National Cemetery, unless already committed to the one in Canton.
- 9- Philanthropic Chair, Kaye Genovese shared a presentation to enthruse every chapter to submit a Philanthropic Report this year. Kaye reported that philanthropy is a big part of ESA and the philanthropic reports that are submitted each year are tabulated at Headquarters and reported to the IRS, which is the source our 501(c)(3) status. Kaye stressed that it is very important for chapters to prepare and submit Philanthropic Reports each year, even if they do not submit for Awards. Kaye contributed several ideas on how to track our hours, mileage, value of goods and monies, including using a pocket calendar to store donation information or using a philanthropic contribution form that makes it easy to track donations. She hopes to receive a report from every chapter this year.

- 10- SERC Coordinator, Linda Long reminded membership that the SERC Conference 'Georgia's Hidden Treasures' is 6 weeks away. Linda reported that we have proposed changes to the SERC Bylaws and she asked members to review them before the Conference and direct any questions to our SERC Committee member from Georgia, Kim New. Linda reminded anyone who wishes to enter an Association of the Arts item at SERC should prepare the entry form and to make sure it is postmarked by September 27, 2023 and mail it to the SERC Co-Chair Susan Garner. Linda has requested that each chapter make a minimum annual donation of \$10 by September 30, 2023 and mail it to the SERC Treasurer. So far, 4 out of 13 chapters have donated, but it is not too late and she urged the remaining chapters to also donate and earn Georgia 100% participation. Linda reminded members of the SERC Conference and Hotel Registration deadlines, on October 2, 2023. We have 64 people registered so far and forms are available on our GSC Website.
- 11- St Jude Coordinator, Romanda Talley shared that she learned at the IC Convention that 1 in 5 children with cancer in the USA dies, but 4 in 5 in other countries die. Because of this, St Jude started the Global Initiative 2 years ago to be able to go to the children in other countries instead of waiting for the children to come here and possibly leaving behind other siblings or family members. Romanda shared that St Jude is building 2 new 15-story state-of-the-art towers for the children and their families. The new facilities will include schools, common areas, library, hair salons, gym and more. The plan is to include babysitting for siblings and schools that have accredited certifications. Romanda reminded all members to make sure they are in the St Jude Volunteer database. She also reported that the St Jude website has sample letters and templates that members can use when preparing for a letter campaign for an event to ask for donations from friends, neighbors, coworkers, etc. Romanda urged using a letter campaign and especially involving chapter members who cannot participate in other ways due to mobility or illness issues. Romanda reported on the completion of 2 Dream Homes in Georgia by August 3, 2023 with one netting \$750,000 in Savannah and the other \$1,500,000, in Atlanta. This is the first year for a home in Atlanta and it was a big success. Both homes were sell-outs. More details coming at Mid-Year. The money however, does not all go to ESA Georgia. Romanda reported that Savannah will get 50% of the net amount, and the Atlanta percentage is still in process (the max would be 50%). So, assuming ESA Georgia also gets 50% from the Atlanta home, Romanda reported monies would be \$375,000 from Savannah and \$750,000 from Atlanta. Romanda reported that members who worked the Dream Homes will get their hours and credited amount of money after SERC, most likely. Romanda reported that there is a possibility of another Dream Home this year, in Columbus. More information on that soon. Romanda shared that the St Jude Total for ESA last year was \$19,826,651 and the portion from Georgia was \$455,690. The new ESA Lifetime total for St Jude is \$361,279,730. Romanda then explained how some states make so much more money for St Jude than Georgia, and it pertains to the percentage amount given for the Dream Homes in other states and the number of Dream Home events. Some states have 5 houses or more and get 100%. We are still very fortunate to have Dream Homes in Georgia, because some states do not allow these drawings at all. Next, Romanda recognized all members planning to participate in the upcoming St Jude Walk/Run and reminded the membership that it is not too late to contribute to the ESA Georgia team online. Romanda then asked each chapter to do a project to support child cancer in the month of September and October.
- 12- Yearbook Chair, Karen Smith was not in attendance. In her absence, Susan Knudson presented President Susan Garner with her copy of the 2023-2024 Yearbook.

Unfinished Business:

GSC Convention 2023: Susan Knudson presented a check to the GSC Treasurer from Delta Iota for half the profit made from GSC Convention last year, in the amount of \$609.25.

GSC Convention 2024: The convention will be May 17-19, 2024 at Unicoi State Park & Lodge in Helen, GA centered around the beautiful Lake Unicoi in the Chattahoochee National Forest. Convention Chair, Susan McVey shared a map of the park grounds and described the 4 lodges with a network of sidewalks and ramps to connect the grounds with a central courtyard. She provided photos of the lodge in an overhead presentation. The park offers hiking trails leading to Anna Ruby Falls and the Unicoi Lake is a celebrated trout fishing spot. There are swings, a fireplace and restaurant on site at the lodge. The lodge can coordinate shuttles to and from Helen for great shopping and restaurants.

The Registration fee will be \$150. Lodge room rates will be \$159 plus tax and lodging fee. The lodge fee will include the State Park Pass and the shuttle to Helen. The Registration Deadline will be April 16, 2024 and the registration form has instructions on how to book online using a promo code: 10296.

Susan gave an update on the GSC Convention 2024 fundraisers.

Goodies pre-sold and sold at Leadership \$475

Signature Page \$23

BINGO \$205

Silent Auction \$740

50/50 Raffle \$112 (the winner, Tammy Raymaker, also won \$112)

Convention Registration Raffle, so far \$210 (drawing will be on 04/01/2024)

Total funds raised this weekend... \$1765

GSC Convention 2025: The convention 'DIAMOND JUBILEE' will be May 16-18, 2025 at Amicalola Falls State Park & Lodge in Dawsonville, GA. Convention Co-chairs will be Susan McVey and Gennie Gilvin. The Registration fee will be \$155. Lodge room rates will be \$169 plus tax and lodging fee. Susan McVey shared that the lodge has breathtaking mountain vista views. This will be our 75th GSC Convention and the Gavelettes are hosting and planning indoor and outdoor events.

GSC Mid-Year 2024: The Mid-Year meeting, "ESA ADVENTURE AWAITS FOR YOU IN AIKEN, SC" will be February 17, 2024 at Newberry Hall in Aiken, SC. Lodging is suggested at the Carriage House Inn. Mid-Year will be hosted by Gamma Omega. Chapter president Theresa McGugan encouraged members to register at the hotel as soon as possible, which will allow more rooms to be reserved for GSC.

IC Convention 2025: The IC Convention 'SOUTHERN SERENADE' will be July 16-19, 2025 at Embassy Suites in Cary, NC. Room rates are \$175/double, \$185/triple and \$195/quadruple. It will be hosted by SERC and Susan Garner will be the GSC liaison. At this time, Georgia has not volunteered to host any of the events.

New Business:

Call for IC Nominations, President Susan asked the membership if anyone was interested in running for an IC office. There were no responses. The deadline for nominations will be November 15, 2023.

SERC Candidates were shared by Linda Long, our SERC Coordinator:

President	Laura Gnewuch
1 st Vice President	Tammy Gregg
2 nd Vice President	Dawn Middleton
Rec. Secretary	Jennifer Gailey
Cor. Secretary	Lauren Ryan
Treasurer	Kelli Thornberry
Parliamentarian	Casey Hoffman
Past President	Theda Hall

SERC Bylaws have some proposed changes to be voted on at the SERC Conference in October. The details were provided in the Fall Board meeting agenda and were emailed to membership from President Susan Garner, on August 30, 2023 so that each chapter could review.

The members planning to attend SERC counted off and there are 21 members here at Fall Board planning to go.

Executive Board Recommendations: Kim New shared that there are no recommendations at this time.

SERC Finance Fundraiser: Asking for gift cards to be donated for an 'Old Bag' Raffle fundraiser. Also asking for donations for the SERC State Basket Raffle and if anyone has some today, give to Romanda Talley or Susan Knudson.

Preparing for GSC Meetings: Sharon Smoot, Delta Omega, requested meeting organizers to email the meeting agenda ahead of the meeting, especially for those members responsible for tasks in the agenda.

Executive Board Appointment Timeframes: Frances Jennings, Alpha Delta, suggested appointing a committee to research the feasibility of extending the terms of the Executive Board to 2 years.

IC Leadership and IC Convention: Romanda Talley, Kappa Rho, shared that she sent IC a letter to suggest combining IC Leadership and IC Convention, in an effort to save travelling expenses for members who attend both.

Announcements:

- 1- SERC - October 27-28, 2023, Embassy Suites by Hilton Savannah Airport, Pooler, GA (Hosted by GSC). Registration and hotel deadlines are October 2, 2023.

SERC Tours

1. October 26, 2023, 11am – Go to River Street and shop, then boat trip, and then dinner at Crab Shack. Total cost for bus and riverboat is \$73.45. Dinner is self-pay. Deadline to send form and money is October 1, 2023
 2. Mighty Eighth Museum, Pooler, GA. Transportation is not provided.
- 2- SERC Finance Chapter Donation of \$10 (if not already paid)
 - 3- IC Chapter Dues (\$40) are due by May 1, 2024.
 - 4- Mid-Year Council Meeting – February 17, 2023 – Newberry Hall, Aiken SC (Hosted by Gamma Omega). Registration deadline is January 31, 2024 and hotel reservation at Carriage House Inn is December 18, 2023.
 - 5- GSC Convention – May 17-19, 2024 – Unicoi State Park & Lodge in Helen, GA (Hosted by Sigma Chi, Delta Nu, Alpha Nu). Registration and hotel deadlines are April 16, 2024.

Closing Thought: Chaplain, Luanne Langmo, shared some closing thoughts.

'Life may throw challenges your way, but remember that with every obstacle, there comes an opportunity for growth and greatness. You possess a reservoir of untapped potential, waiting to be unleashed upon the world. You are destined for greatness, and the universe eagerly awaits your unique contributions.

Les Brown once said, "Life takes on meaning when you become motivated, set goals, and charge after them in an unstoppable manner." Embrace this mantra and let it fuel your passion to achieve the extraordinary. Do not let doubts or the fear of failure hold you back, for these are merely stepping stones towards success.

Dream big, believe in yourself, and take action fearlessly ! The world awaits your brilliance, and I have no doubt that you will shine brightly. With unwavering belief in your potential.'

President Susan adjourned the meeting at 12:02pm.

The membership recited the Closing Ritual.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Venetia Lewallen
2023-2024 GSC Recording Secretary