

Georgia State Council (GSC)
Epsilon Sigma Alpha International



GSC Convention – 1st General Assembly Meeting – Unicoi State Park & Lodge
Saturday, May 18, 2024

The 2024 Georgia State Council (GSC) Convention's 1st General Assembly meeting was held in the Master 2 Conference Room at the Unicoi State Park & Lodge in Helen, GA on Saturday, May 18th, 2024.

President Susan Garner called the meeting to order at 9:00am and thanked the hosting Chapters, Sigma Chi, Delta Nu and Alpha Nu for hosting this year's Convention.

Opening Thought: Chaplain, Luanne Langmo, shared an inspiring opening thought.

'With every step you take in this adventure, remember you are smarter, stronger, more interesting and more capable than you often give yourself credit for. The world awaits your light, your contributions, your unique story. So, stride forward with confidence, grace and an unwavering belief in yourself, for there is no one quite like you, and that is your greatest strength.'

Second Vice President, Ruth Ann Edge did not lead the membership in the 'The Pledge of Allegiance' because the Flag Ceremony preceded this meeting and we had already recited the pledge this morning.

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

The first order of business was from Susan McVey, our Convention Chair, who shared some logistics about the lodge, the convention meetings and meal locations.

Next, President Susan introduced our special guests, International Council (IC) and Southeastern Regional Council (SERC) representatives for the weekend.

- Celeste Webb, 2023-2024 IC 2nd Vice President, from Illinois
- Jennifer Gailey, 2023-2024 SERC Recording Secretary, from Tennessee

President Susan then recognized the 2 members from Georgia who served as Past IC Presidents.

- Kaye Genovese (1993-94)
- Pat Griffin (2002-03)

President Susan then recognized the 2 members from Georgia who served as Past SERC Presidents.

- Romanda Talley (1986-87)
- Joy Lynn Tynes (2009-10)

President Susan then recognized our Georgia member who is currently serving on the IC Appointed Board.

- Romanda Talley (Nominating Committee)

President Susan then recognized our 2 Georgia members who are currently serving on the SERC Appointed Board.

- Joy Lynn Tynes (Chaplain)
- Susan Garner (Association of the Arts Chair)

Next, President Susan recognized our GSC Outstanding Member and Chapter of the Year.

- Member of the Year: Mary Cooper (Delta Nu)
- Chapter of the Year: Delta Iota

Then, President Susan introduced her Executive Board, Appointed Board and Committee Members, which included Roll Call.

<u>Executive Board</u>	<u>Present / Absent</u>
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
IC Representative, Celeste Webb	P
SERC Representative, Jennifer Gailey	P

<u>Appointed Board</u>	<u>Present / Absent</u>
Administrative Assistant, Janie Kozal	P
Administrative Assistant, Frances Lanier	P
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	P
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 (both)
Philanthropic, Kaye Genovese	P
Photographer, Debbie Lamp'l	P
SERC Coordinator, Linda Long	P
Scrapbook Editor, Alpha Beta Chapter	P
Social Co-Chairman, Shirley Humphries	P
Social Co-Chairman, Marsha Stroud	A

St. Jude Coordinator, Romanda Talley	P
Web Master, Gennie Gilvin	P
Yearbook, Karen Smith	P

<u>Committees</u>	<u>Present / Absent</u>
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	A
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	P
Credentials Committee Chairman, Shirley Humphries	P
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	A

Next, President Susan introduced our Gavelettes, after defining the Gavelettes for our new and 1st Time Attendees. She described that the Gavelettes are Georgia members who have served as a past Georgia State President or as a President in another state who is now a Georgia Council member.

<u>Gavelettes</u>	<u>Present / Absent</u>	
1979-80	Angela Coleman	A
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	P
2003-04	Joy Lynn Tynes	P
2005-06	Gail Gilvin	A
2006-07	Karen Smith	P
2008-09	Connie Presley	P
2009-10	Susan McVey	P
2010-11	Gennie Gilvin	P
2011-12	Donna Moore	A
2012-13	Sherrie Bordeaux	P
2013-14	Gail Marchant	P
2014-15	Sherry Presley	P
2015-16	Frances Lanier	P
2016-17	Stormy Bowie	P

2017-18	Frances Jennings	P
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 recognized any Pledges, 1st Time Attendees and Members at Large.

<u>Special Group:</u>	<u>Count in Attendance:</u>
Pledges	0
1 st Time Attendees	0
Members at Large	0
Guests	2

IC Representative, Celeste Webb and SERC Representative, Jennifer Gailey were the 2 Guests in attendance.

The next order of business was addressing the Rules Governing a Georgia State Council Meeting by Parliamentarian, Susan McVey. Susan allowed a few moments for the membership to silently review the rules that were provided in the agenda. There were no questions.

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.

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

Chapter Roll Call

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Present / Absent</u>	<u># on Roll</u>	<u># Present</u>	<u>Voting Delegates</u>
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Alpha Beta	Stormy Bowie	P	8	6	2
Alpha Delta	Pat Griffin	P	11	2	2
Alpha Nu	Connie Presley	P	3	2	2
Beta Kappa	Linda Long	P	3	2	2
Beta Sigma	Kaye Kinnebrew	A			
Beta Zeta	Joy Lynn Tynes	P	1	1	1
Delta Iota	Susan Knudson	P	8	6	2
Delta Nu	Vicki Warren	P	2	2	2
Delta Omega	Sharon Smoot	P	2	2	2
Gamma Omega	Theresa McGugan	P	6	2	2
Gamma Sigma	Sandra Helton	A	6	2	2
Kappa Rho	Romanda Talley	P	8	4	2
Sigma Chi	Sherry Presley	P	3	3	2

The next order of business was the Convention Registration Report. The Registration Chairman, Gennie Gilvin, gave the following report.

Registration Report:

Members:	36
Members at Large (MAL):	0
Guests:	3
Total Registered:	39
Total Number of Rooms:	55

The next order of business was the Credentials Report. The Credentials Chairman, Shirley Humphries, gave the following report.

12 of 13 Chapters represented for a total of	23 Chapter Votes
(All present were in good financial standing)	
GSC Past President Votes	20 Votes
GSC President’s Vote (Only at Convention)	<u>1 Vote</u>
Total Votes	44 Total Votes

The next order of business was the reading of the minutes by Recording Secretary, Venetia Lewallen, from the 2024 GSC Mid-Year Meeting, held on February 17th, 2024 in Aiken, SC. 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 Correspondence by Corresponding Secretary, Kim New. No report.

The next order of business was the Rules of Convention by Susan McVey, Parliamentarian. Susan allowed a few moments for the membership to silently review the rules that were provided in the agenda. There were no questions.

Article XIII- Rules of Convention

Section 1. Each chapter in good financial standing shall receive two (2) votes for each ten (10) Jewel Pin members of the chapter, or fraction thereof, whose state dues have been paid.

Section 2. The official ballot will list not more than three (3) names for each elective office. The ballot shall be handed each Past State President and the Past State Director in attendance; the State President and each Chapter President or her representative in attendance by the Credentials Committee, after Credentials have been cleared.

- Section 3. Balloting may not start until the First General Assembly has been recessed for the purpose of voting. Ballot to be dropped into sealed ballot box, at the conclusion of the recess. The ballots are to be handed in by the Chapter President or representative.
- Section 4. Three tellers shall be named by the President to count ballots. A Bylaws-Georgia State Council of Epsilon Sigma Alpha International Page 13 of 16 statement of the election returns shall be turned over to the President immediately following final count and become a part of the records.
- Section 5. All ballots must be filed with the Outgoing President for a period of ninety (90) days.
- Section 6. Nominations will be received from the floor for elective offices; candidates so nominated must conform to Article VIII, Sections 2 and 3.
- Section 7. Installation of officers shall take place at the Convention. The installing officer shall be chosen by the Incoming President, and she must be an active Past State President, or a current or past Southeastern Regional Council or International Council Officer.
- Section 8. Elections shall be determined by a plurality of delegates or their alternative, if the voting delegates are not present.
- Section 9. Voting on all business shall be done by voting delegates or their alternates, if the voting delegates are not present.
- Section 10. Even though she cannot vote, any non-voting delegate present at a state meeting may make motions and enter discussion.
- Section 11. The President of the Georgia State Council may cast the one (1) vote she is entitled to at the same time the balloting is going on. In the event of a tie, a second ballot shall be taken and balloting shall continue to such time as a decision is made.
- Section 12. Each Past President of the Georgia State Council, who is in good financial standing and in attendance shall be given one (1) vote.

Article XIV- Quorum

- Section 2. A majority of the current chapters represented who are in good financial standing shall constitute a quorum at any council meeting.

The next order of business was the Nominating Committee Report by Susan Knudson, the Committee Chair. She described that Nomination Forms and Willing to Serve Forms were sent out to all members on January 28, 2024 and were also included in the February issue of the Newsletter. The deadline to receive the nominations was March 1, 2024. She received 8 nominations.

The Nomination Committee (Linda Long, Donna Moore and Susan Knudson) reviewed and approved the nominations on March 6, 2024. The list of candidates and their qualifications were sent to all Chapter Presidents on March 11, 2024.

Susan Knudson asked each candidate to come to the front of the room after being called.

The 2024-2025 GSC List of Candidates was as follows:

- President Susan Knudson (Delta Iota)
- First Vice-President Ruth Ann Edge (Delta Iota)
- Second Vice-President Romanda Talley (Kappa Rho)
- Recording Secretary Theresa McGugan (Gamma Omega)
- Corresponding Secretary Karen Smith (Delta Iota)
- Treasurer Sheryl Gootee (Gamma Omega)
- Parliamentarian Joy Lynn Tynes (Beta Zeta)
- Junior Past President Susan Garner (Alpha Beta)

Susan Knudson moved that the slate of officers be accepted by acclamation. After recognizing the motion, President Susan asked for any discussion and being none, she then called for a vote. The voting delegates voted and unanimously accepted the slate of officers for 2024-2025.

9:30am – The Meeting recessed.

9:45am – The Meeting was reconvened.

The next order of business was the Proposed Bylaw and Standing Rule Changes, from the Bylaws Committee, Susan McVey.

Susan McVey informed membership that the proposed changes were in the agenda. Then she read each of the proposed changes.

Bylaw Article VIII – Officers Section 5

Currently reads:

A state Elected Officer shall not be eligible to succeed themselves in the same office for the following year; except in the case of a Declared National or State Emergency and the annual Convention does not take place. (Amended 5-15-2021)

Change to read:

A state Elective Officer shall not be eligible to succeed themselves in the same office for the following year **with exception of the office of Treasurer. Treasurer may serve no more than two consecutive terms; Elective Officers may succeed themselves in the case of a Declared National or State Emergency and the annual Convention does not take place.**

Reason: The duties of the office of Treasurer are a combination of tedious and complex tasks. Familiarity with these tasks is considered a plus. This change would make it permissible for a Treasurer to serve a second consecutive term that would take advantage of the knowledge of duties while making a smooth transition for the new Elective Officers and membership. Note: Books will be audited at the end of each year whether the Treasurer is first or second term.

President Susan stated that the motion had been made and coming from a committee, did not require a second. Then she called for any discussion.

After some discussion, President Susan called for a vote on the original proposed change. With the exception of 1 vote, all voting delegates voted to Oppose the original proposed change.

The original motion for the proposed change was DEFEATED.

Luanne Langmo (Delta Omega) moved to amend the original change and update the word 'may' to 'is limited to', in order to be more precise and more aligned with Robert's Rules for wording associated with Bylaws. Gennie Gilvin (Alpha Nu) seconded the motion.

Amended Change #1:

A state Elective Officer shall not be eligible to succeed themselves in the same office for the following year with exception of the office of Treasurer. Treasurer **may is limited to** serve no more than two consecutive terms; Elective Officers may succeed themselves in the case of a Declared National or State Emergency and the annual Convention does not take place.

After some discussion, President Susan called for a vote on the Amended Motion #1 and it was unanimously APPROVED.

Frances Jennings (Alpha Delta) moved to change the word 'year' to 'term'. Kim New (Alpha Beta) seconded the motion.

Amended Change #2:

A state Elective Officer shall not be eligible to succeed themselves in the same office for the following **year term** with exception of the office of Treasurer. Treasurer is limited to serve no more than two

consecutive terms; Elective Officers may succeed themselves in the case of a Declared National or State Emergency and the annual Convention does not take place.

President Susan called for any discussion and hearing none, she called for a vote on the Amended Motion #2 and it was unanimously APPROVED.

Bylaws Article VIII – Officers

Duties of the Officers on the Executive Board (amended 5-18-2019)

Section 6 (e) Treasurer's duties shall be:

Currently reads:

6. To submit an itemized report of all financial dealings to be distributed to Chapter Presidents at the Mid-Year Council meeting;

Change to read:

6. To submit **to Chapter Presidents** an itemized report of all financial dealings to be distributed at the Mid-Year Council meeting **and to submit a final report of expenditures against budgeted line items to be distributed at annual convention.**

Reason: End of year final report will show amounts spent for the year against budgeted amounts and will be an aide for the future Budget committee in budget preparation.

President Susan stated that a motion had been made and called for discussion, hearing none she called for the vote and the motion was unanimously APPROVED.

Bylaws Article IX - Duties of Appointed Officers

Currently reads:

- Section 2. Each Appointed Officer shall submit a written report of her year's activities. Each retiring Appointed Officer shall give files pertaining to her office to the newly elected Corresponding Secretary prior to the first Executive Board Meeting at the annual convention.

Change to read:

- Section 2. Each Appointed Officer shall submit a written report of her year's activities. **Each retiring Appointed Officer shall give files pertaining to her office to the newly appointed successor prior to the Incoming Board Meeting at the annual convention. If officer is not yet named, the file goes to the newly elected Corresponding Secretary.**

Reason: Clarify the transfer of information from predecessor to newly appointed officer.

President Susan stated that a motion had been made and called for discussion, hearing none she called for the vote and the motion was unanimously APPROVED.

Bylaws Article XI – Standing Committees

Currently reads:

Section 2. The duties of the Standing Committee shall be as follows:

- (a) The Convention Committee shall be used as a clearinghouse for all convention matters. All records on State Convention shall be given to the Second Vice President thirty (30) days after the convention.

Change to read:

Section 2. The duties of the Standing Committee shall be as follows:

- (a) The Convention Committee shall be used as a clearinghouse for all convention matters. **The Convention Chairman's records on State Convention shall be given to the successor chairman within 30 days of convention.**

Reason: Clarify whose records and to whom they will be passed.

President Susan stated that a motion had been made and called for discussion. Frances Jennings (Alpha Delta) asked a question pertaining to the convention treasurer reports and it was clarified that only the Convention Chairman's records were to be given to the next Convention Chair, and that did not include the convention treasurer reports.

Then President Susan called for the vote and the motion was unanimously APPROVED.

Bylaws Article XII - State Conventions

Currently reads:

Section 2. Written bids for the annual State Convention shall be submitted to the Second Vice President two (2) years in advance, prior to the current year's convention. Bids presented shall be in writing and submitted by the Mid-Year Meeting. Bids shall include a proposal on hotel site and dates as well as approximate room rates.

Change to read:

Section 2. **Courtesy** bids for the annual State Convention shall be submitted to the Second Vice President two (2) years in advance, prior to the current year's convention. Bids presented shall be in writing and submitted by the Mid-Year Meeting.

Reason: Site, dates and room rates are elements of a written bid that frequently are not yet contracted two years prior to mid-year meeting deadline. Changing to a courtesy bid will allow a hostess to declare intent to host without these elements.

President Susan stated that a motion had been made and called for discussion, hearing none she called for the vote and the motion was unanimously APPROVED.

Standing Rule #7

Currently reads:

7. The expenses (amount to be voted on at the State Convention) to the International Convention shall be paid to the newly elected State President or an official delegate approved by the Board. Any member in good financial standing with a Georgia Chapter may be eligible to become the delegate by notifying a Board member prior to the State Convention

Change to read:

7. If the newly elected State President is unable to attend International Convention, an official delegate may be approved by the Executive Board. Any member in good financial standing with a Georgia Chapter may be eligible to become the delegate by notifying an Executive Board member prior to the State Convention.

Reason: The beginning of this Standing Rule is no longer applicable as the expenses are addressed in Standing Rule 5A. Change to address President's inability to attend IC.

President Susan stated that a motion had been made and called for discussion. Romanda Talley (Kappa Rho) proposed adding IC Leadership to the rule as well. It was clarified that we needed to keep the original changes for this voting cycle and adding IC Leadership could be proposed change at a different time.

Then, President Susan called for the vote and the motion was unanimously APPROVED.

Standing Rule #13

Currently reads:

13. The Local Convention Chair shall submit a proposed convention budget and hotel contract to the State President for presentation to the Executive Board for review and approval by the Fall Council Meeting 1 ½ years prior to convention.

Change to read:

13. The Local Convention Chair shall submit a proposed convention budget and approved hotel contract to the State President for presentation to the Executive Board for review and approval after completion of contract and/or mid-year meeting one year prior to convention.

Reason: Fewer hotels are writing contracts more than 1 year from event. Executive Board will be given the budget and contract for review by mid-year meeting 12 to 15 months prior to convention.

President Susan stated that a motion had been made and called for discussion, hearing none she called for the vote and the motion was unanimously APPROVED.

Standing Rule #14

Currently reads:

14. All Disaster Fund donations (checks) shall be made payable to ESA INTERNATIONAL DISASTER FUND and forwarded once a month with Disaster Fund reporting form to the International Council Disaster Fund Chair by the Georgia State Council Disaster Fund Chair. The Georgia State Council Disaster Fund Chair will keep a notebook showing a record of all checks received from chapters/individuals during the year by name, chapter and number and amount. This record will be given to her successor at state convention each year.

Change to read:

14. All Disaster Fund donations (checks) shall be made payable to ESA INTERNATIONAL DISASTER FUND and forwarded once a month with Disaster Fund reporting form to the International Council Disaster Fund Chair by the Georgia State Council Disaster Fund Chair. The Georgia State Council Disaster Fund Chair will keep a notebook showing a record of all checks received from

chapters/individuals during the year by name, chapter and number and amount. **A copy of the record will be given to successor at state convention each year. The Disaster Fund books must go to Auditor within 30 days of convention. Electronic transfer is acceptable.**

Reason: Per Article VIII - Officers Section 6 (h) 1.c of GSC Bylaws, the records of the Disaster Fund Chair are to be submitted for audit.

President Susan stated that a motion had been made and called for discussion, hearing none she called for the vote and the motion was unanimously APPROVED.

Standing Rule #15

Currently reads:

15. Upon the approval and acceptance of a convention bid by the membership of the Georgia State Council, the convention books from the previous convention staged in the same city or area shall be released to the new local Convention Chair two years in advance.

Change to read:

15. Upon the approval and acceptance of a convention bid by the membership of the Georgia State Council, the convention books from the previous convention shall be released to the new local Convention Chair two years in advance.

Reason: The phrase “staged in the same city or area” is not relative to the task.

President Susan stated that a motion had been made and called for discussion, hearing none she called for the vote and the motion was unanimously APPROVED.

Standing Rule #21.A.

Currently reads:

21. Duties of Appointed Officers:

A. Duty of the Auditor:

To audit the State Treasurer’s books and the State Convention Committee books for the previous year; these books should be received within thirty days following the state convention.

Change to read:

A. Duty of the Auditor:

1. **To audit the books of State Treasurer, State Convention Treasurer and State Disaster Fund Chair. Books to be received within thirty days following the annual state convention. Electronic transfer is acceptable.**
 - a. **Audit of State Treasurer’s books should be performed timely to allow the return of**

- the books to newly elected State Treasurer on or before July 31st.
- b. Audited State Convention books may be returned to convention treasurer on or before fall board meeting.
 - c. Audited State Disaster Fund books may be returned to Disaster Fund chair on or before fall board meeting.
2. Give a report at Fall-board meeting of the audit findings.

Reason: Establish an expected timeframe for the audits to take place and return of ledger/books.

President Susan stated that a motion had been made and called for discussion, hearing none she called for the vote and the motion was unanimously APPROVED.

Next, President Susan called for any Unfinished Business.

Frances Jennings (Alpha Delta) had asked if a 2-year term length for Executive Board officers had been explored, as requested at the GSC Mid-Year meeting. President Susan shared that yes, it had been explored. She had interviewed other state presidents and learned that some states had started using the 2-year terms and other states were not ready to do that. Not enough information to determine benefits or risks.

President Susan asked for any other Unfinished Business, and there was none.

So, she then asked for any New Business. Susan McVey presented a motion from the Bylaws Committee and moved that the GSC Bylaw Article XI Section 2 (e) be suspended until the conclusion of the 1st General Assembly of the GSC Convention, May 18, 2024.

Original Bylaw Reads:

Article XI – Standing Committee

Section 2. The duties of the Standing Committee shall be as follows:

(e) The Budget Committee shall be responsible for compiling a proposed budget to be presented to the State Executive Board at the Mid-Year meeting of the State Council for approval prior to being presented for adoption by the membership of the State Council at the annual convention. At least thirty (30) days prior to State Convention, the State Treasurer will send a copy of the proposed budget to each chapter for its consideration prior to final vote at Convention. (Amended 5-15-2021)

Reason for the Temporary Suspension: Proposed budget was published for membership review fewer than thirty (30) days prior to State Convention. Suspension of the bylaw will remove obstacle to the business of voting on proposed budget at the Georgia State Council Convention 2024.

President Susan stated that the motion had been made and coming from a committee, did not require a second. Then she called for any discussion. Hearing none, she called for the vote and the motion was unanimously APPROVED.

The next order of business was the proposed budget for 2024-2025 by Gail Marchant, Treasurer. Gail reported that the proposed budget was printed in the convention program on page 17. Gail stated that the Proposed Budget had a section at the bottom, GEORGIA BANK ACCOUNTS, that needed some updates.

Section to Change on Last 3 Rows of the Proposed Budget	Change From:	Change To:
Balance as of dates (3 occurrences)	4-30-23	4-30-24
Regions Checking Account	\$10,462.68	\$12,146.04
Regions Candidate Fund Account	\$ 3,723.29	\$ 3,923.65
Regions Savings Account	\$ 6,347.29	\$ 6,347.89

President Susan stated that the motion to approve this Proposed Budget had been made and coming from a committee, did not require a second. Then she called for any discussion.

Romanda Talley (Kappa Rho) made a motion to increase the budget for Chaplain (E-9) from \$50 to \$100. Joy Lynn Tynes (Beta Zeta) seconded. After some discussion, President Susan called for a vote.

The vote was close: In Favor: 18 Opposed: 20 Motion was DEFEATED.

Then, President Susan asked for the vote to accept the 2024-2025 Proposed Budget, as printed in the agenda. Motion was APPROVED.

The next order of business was the Chaplain's Report by Luanne Lango, Chaplain. Luanne reported that she had received 54 IC Chaplain's Reports, 14 SERC Chaplain's Reports and sent out 76 E-Mails. She also sent out 10 various Holiday messages and written 6 Newsletter articles. She provided Opening and Closing Remarks for the 2023 Incoming Board Meeting, 2023 Leadership Council and 2024 Mid-Year meetings, as well as the Messages before Lunch at Leadership and Mid-Year. She will also be giving Opening and Closing Remarks for all meetings at Convention and will be carrying the All Faiths Flag for the Flag Ceremony. At Convention, on Sunday, she will be presenting the Celebration of Life ceremony.

The next order of business was the Gavelette Report, by Sherry Presley. No report.

The next order of business was the Membership Report, by 2nd vice-President, Ruth Ann Edge. Ruth Ann began by thanking President Susan, the Executive Board and members of GSC for allowing her to serve this year. Then, she reported the following for GSC, from Headquarters:

- 13 Chapters in Good Standing
- 63 Jewel Pin Members
- 17 Members at Large
- 0 Pledges (this is because IC considers a member as a Jewel Pin after only 3 months versus the 6 months that Georgia uses)

Next, President Susan presented Jennifer Gailey, our 2023-2024 SERC Recording Secretary from Juliet, Tennessee, to share a message. Jennifer shared her background, career and family information. She is a 3rd generation ESA member and 3rd generation Tennessee President. She also shared her joy to be part of a technology team to help St Jude, ESA and others. She encouraged everyone to attend the SERC Convention and reminded us that SERC was formed to provide a venue to acquire strong bonds and friendships.

10:50am – The Meeting recessed.

11:03am – The Meeting was reconvened.

Next, President Susan presented Celeste Webb, our 2023-2024 IC 2nd Vice-President from Mattoon, Illinois, to share a message. Celeste shared past sadness in her family and how her ESA family helped her through it. She shared some of the fun things that are planned for the IC Convention this year and encouraged everyone to try and attend. Celeste then described Connecting Through ESA in various ways to increase membership. She thanked GSC for our hospitality this weekend.

The next order of business was the Disaster Fund Report, by Jr Past President, Wanda Price. Wanda thanked each Chapter for supporting the Disaster Fund this year. She reported that 8 of 13 Chapters had made contributions for a total of \$1215.00, with \$35.00 of that coming from a private donation. She provided a breakdown of each Chapter's contributions, per member.

	Chapter	Total Amount	# Members	Amount Per Member
1	Alpha Beta	\$ 522.00	8	\$ 65.25
2	Alpha Delta	\$ 20.00	11	\$ 1.81
3	Beta Kappa	\$ 50.00	8	\$ 6.25
4	Beta Zeta	\$ 10.00	1	\$ 10.00
5	Delta Iota	\$ 203.00	8	\$ 25.38
6	Delta Nu	\$ 50.00	2	\$ 25.00
7	Gamma Omega	\$ 25.00	6	\$ 4.17
8	Kappa Rho	\$ 300.00	8	\$ 37.50

Wanda contacted Denise Holderway, a former IC President who is now on the Disaster Fund Board, and reported that there were 7 claims requested and fulfilled to the Disaster Fund this past year. Georgia had no claims submitted.

The next order of business was the Foundation Report from Sherry Presley, ESA Foundation Counselor. Sherry reported that ESA Foundation donations were \$2427 from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024. Sherry described the reason that the Foundation dues went up this year was to help cover increasing operating expenses and upgraded software costs. The dues had not been increased since 1992. Sherry described that the correct Turn-Around form is not currently on the web site but they are working to get it added. She handed out a hard copy of the correct form to all Chapter Presidents in attendance.

The next order of business was the 2025 Convention Report, with Susan McVey, Convention Chair. Susan shared this will be our 75th Annual GSC Convention, hosted by the Gavelettes and the theme will be 'Diamond Jubilee'. The convention will be at Amicalola Falls State Park & Lodge in Dawsonville, GA on Friday, May 16, 2025 through Sunday, May 18, 2025. Registration will be \$155.00 due by April 16, 2025 and the forms are available on the Georgia website. Room rates are \$169 per night plus tax (15%) and \$12 Lodge Service Fee (free parking) and hotel registration deadline is April 15, 2025.

The next order of business was the 2026 Convention Report, with Ruth Ann Edge, 2nd Vice-President. Ruth Ann was happy to report that Gamma Omega had submitted a courtesy bid to host the 2026 GSC Convention and invited Sheryl Gootee, Convention Chair, to come up and share some information. Sheryl stated their Chapter was excited to submit the bid and they are looking for a location in Augusta, GA.

Next, Gail Marchant, Awards Chair, announced that the Awards Banquet would not have a separate awards list to record the winners on – but we should use the list provided in the agenda, if we wish to keep a record of the winners.

The next order of business was the International Council Ballot. Corresponding Secretary, Kim New presented the International Council Ballot:

Office	Name	State
1 st Vice-President / President Elect	Celeste Webb	Illinois (Omega Nu)
2 nd Vice-President	Angie Butenschoen Patricia Gale	Missouri (Rho Chi) Arizona (Eta Pi)
Recording Secretary	Brenda Campbell	Indiana (Eta Pi)

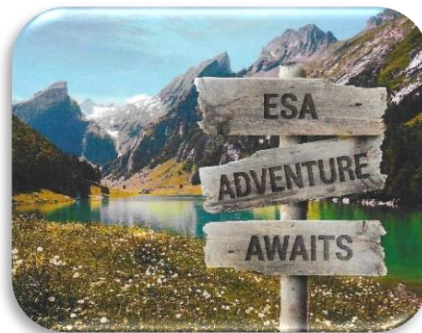
Corresponding Secretary	Betty Keeton	Alabama (Delta Gamma)
Treasurer	Margaret Kramer	Oklahoma (Beta Iota)
Parliamentarian	Jacque Cantrel Brenda Fields	Oklahoma (Gamma Zeta) Missouri (Rho Chi)
Workshop Coordinator	Angie Fairbanks	Kansas (Epsilon Eta)

President Susan stated that in accordance with GSC Caucus Guidelines for IC Convention (page 84 in our Yearbook), no action is required. If a Chapter wishes to send their vote by proxy, the Chapter President should contact Susan Knudson, the new GSC President, to obtain the proxy form and select an attending Georgia member to carry their proxy.

Susan Knudson shared that she had the proxy forms with her today, if anyone needed one.

11:25am – 1st General Assembly was adjourned.

Georgia State Council (GSC)
Epsilon Sigma Alpha International



GSC Convention – 2nd General Assembly Meeting – Unicoi State Park & Lodge
Sunday, May 19, 2024

The 2024 Georgia State Council (GSC) Convention’s 2nd General Assembly meeting was held in the Master 2 Conference Room again, on Sunday, May 19th, 2024.

President Susan Garner called the meeting to order at 10:02am. Chaplain, Luanne Langmo, shared an inspiring opening thought.

‘As we start our meeting I’d like to tickle your inner being. Keep in mind that your voice matters. It’s an inspiration to others. Never underestimate the impact that YOU can make. Advocate for yourself and others.

You can make a difference.”

The next order of business was the presentation of gifts to our IC and SERC Representatives. President Susan thanked them for coming and presented them with a token of our love and appreciation.

The next order of business was to take Chapter Roll Call by Venetia Lewallen, Recording Secretary. She asked the membership if there were any changes to the Roll Call taken at the 1st General Assembly. There were no changes.

The next order of business was the 2023-2024 Treasurer’s Report by the Treasurer, Gail Marchant. Gail supplied the membership with a Treasurer’s Report as of April 30, 2024.

Checking Account Balance as of 1/31/2024 \$12,389.76

Incomes:	\$ 1581.54
Expenses:	\$ 2488.05
Checking Account Balance as of 4/30/24:	\$11,483.25
Savings Account Balance as of 4/30/2024:	\$ 6347.89
Candidates Fund Account Balance as of 4/30/2024:	<u>\$ 3923.65</u>
Total GSC Funds as of 4/30/2024:	\$21,754.79

The next order of business was the Finance Report by Sheryl Gootee, Finance Chair. First, Sheryl did the 50/50 Raffle drawing and asked SERC Rep Jennifer Gailey to draw the lucky winner... Jennifer pulled the winning ticket and it was her..! Jennifer won the raffle.

Then, Sheryl reported the income for GSC this year.

Pampered Chef Online Sales	\$150	
Pampered Chef Raffle	\$300	(winner Susan Garner)
Gamma Omega Bake Sale	\$206	
Delta Omega 1 st Quilt	\$225	(winner Gail Marchant)
Delta Omega 2 nd Quilt	<u>\$200</u>	(winner Gennie Gilvin)
Sub Total	\$1,081	
Convention Auction Sale	\$745.00	(had 23 auction items)
Convention 50/50 Raffle	<u>\$252.50</u>	(winner Jennifer Gailey)
Convention Sub Total	\$997.50	
Grand Total	\$2078.50	

President Susan thanked Sheryl for doing such as great job this year.

Gail Marchant, Treasurer, addressed the membership and advised that we needed to make a correction to the final budget, based on the Finance Committee’s earnings at convention. To make the final budget complete, we need to add \$997.50 to the final budget for 2023-2024.

The next order of business was the Philanthropic Report with Kaye Genovese, Philanthropic Chair. Kaye thanked President Susan for appointing her to serve. She shared that she had attended all State Meetings and Leadership and had been in touch with the Georgia Chapters, especially during Awards submission time. Kaye received 11 completed Philanthropic Annual Report Forms. The winners were given Awards Certificates at the Convention Awards Luncheon. Kaye completed the Form for IC for the Georgia totals and they are as follows:

2023-2024 PROJECTS	HOURS	CASH MONIES	DONATED GOODS	DONATED MILES
Chapter Projects	2747	\$21,938	\$35,335	13,800
District / Zone Projects	n/a			
State Projects	122	\$1640	\$603	1160
International Projects	2551	\$1,829,079	\$105,441	19,156
TOTALS	5420	\$1,852,657	\$141,379	34,116

**Total MILES x IRS Rate of \$0.655 = \$22,346

2023-2024 GSC Philanthropic Totals:

Total Hours: 5420

Total Cash Monies/Donated Goods/Donated Miles w/ IRS Rate: \$2,016,382.00

The next order of business was the Retiring President Susan’s Message. ‘Here we are and what an adventure it has been this year !’. Susan then thanked her Executive and Appointed Boards and the ESA Georgia family for so many things including their friendship, support, love, encouragement and hard work. She enjoyed all her adventures this year and will never forget them.

Then, President Susan was presented with gifts from the GSC membership.

The next order of business was the presentation of the gavel to Incoming President, Susan Knudson and the raising and lowering of the gavels. Kim New lowered Susan Garner's Gavel and Kaye Genovese raised Susan Knudson's Gavel.

President Susan introduced Susan Knudson as the 2024 – 2025 GSC State President. The new President Susan stated that she was just as honored and humbled to serve as GSC President this year as she was when she served as President the first time 30 years ago. She gave a special Thank You to Romanda Talley for her incredible and memorable installation ceremony and to her Delta Iota sisters for their love and support. Her theme is 'ESA, It's the Cat's Meow' with emphasis on Hope for Heroes and Living Green. Her Symbol this year will be the Black Cat and Flower is the Magnolia and Colors are Black, White and Gold. She then asked her Executive Board to stand and announce their office. Then, she asked her Appointed Board to stand and announce their office(s). Lastly, she and her boards committed to having a fun year next year.

Jr. Past President Susan, asked if there were any announcements. Shirley Humphries announced that GSC Leadership/Fall Board registration had to go up to \$60 per member due to increased costs. The location will be at a new hotel in Pooler, GA, the Drury Hotel. She had registration forms and handed them out to everyone.

The next order of business was the installation of Susan Garner, Jr. Past State President into the Gavelettes. Kim New gave Susan a Travel Bag and a Passport booklet and each Gavelette gave Susan a travel size item for her Bag and added a 'stamp' to her Passport enhanced with a single descriptive word of their choosing for Susan.

Luanne Lango, Chaplain gave the Closing Thought.
'Believe in yourself and the world will recognize the incredible person you are. Travel home with a renewed enthusiasm and belief that you can dream big, create a better world and inspire others to follow in your footsteps.'

The next order of business was the retiring of the flags by Romanda Talley.

Jr. Past State President Susan adjourned the meeting at 11:12am.

The membership then stood and recited the Closing Ritual.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Venetia Lewallen
2023-2024 GSC Recording Secretary