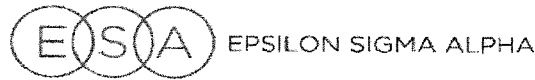
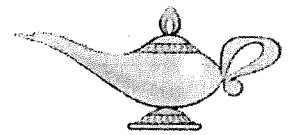




The Florida Lamp

October 2011



Floridalamp@hotmail.com The Voice of Florida

2011-2012

Florida State Board

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Kayla Andux-2nd Vice President

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Mona King- Awards Chairman

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WILD BLUE YONDER

Happy Autumn everyone! You can feel it in the air that cooler weather is on the way! We have had such a hot summer this year and I know we are all welcoming the cooler weather! I hope this year has started off with you all looking into the Wild Blue Yonder! I would love to hear what you all are doing!

I was so excited and blessed to represent the State of Florida at International Convention in July! Carrying the Florida State Flag was such an honor for me and very emotional at the same time. Upon arriving at my hotel in Overland Park Kansas, I was met at the door by three of our past presidents and they took over and showed me the ropes! You ladies know who you are...and I thank you very much! I had a great roommate in Pinky and we learned so much about each other! The convention was quite the learning experience and one that I will always remember. Florida represented very well in the awards department and I will be revealing the winners at Mid-Year, so be sure to attend in October!

MEMBERSHIP!!! We have lost two chapters since June for various reasons. This is not good for Florida! We have been asked by IC President Rose Pasillas to have each Chapter recruit at least one new member this year. I would like us to have at least two new members per chapter! So look into that box of yours and do some magic! I know they are out there, we just need to find them! I am personally still trying to charter a chapter in the Pensacola area, and I have gotten a few leads from some of our members. I am working on getting all of us together to see if we can get a chapter started! I know we can grow our membership this year! I have faith in you all!

Looking forward to our Tail Gate Party in Ocala in October! We are planning a fun time so please don't miss it! Wear your favorite sports team attire and root for your team! See you soon!

ESA Love & Enthusiasm!

Mary Jay

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Insert – Mid –Year Registration

For pictures and other information see:

www.esaflorida.net

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept. 30 – Philanthropic Reports Must Be **Received** by Philanthropic Director

October 1 – IC Chapter Dues Delinquent

October 22 – Board Meeting 8am, Ocala

October 22 – Mid-Year Beta Phi, Ocala

October 28-29 – SERC, North Charleston, South Carolina

November – National St. Jude Give Thanks Walk

December 10 – January Lamp Article Due

January 14 – Audit Lamp Books

January 15 – Jonquil Articles Due

January 21 – Board Meeting 10am

February 1 - Scholarship Applications Deadline

February 1 – By-Law Change Submissions Deadline

February 15 – State Officer Nominations Deadline

Note from the Editor,

Thank you all for helping me through this journey of the lamp! I really do have to put “MY RED HIGH HEELS ON” to do this! I hope you are all enjoying this fun page we make for you! On behalf of Eta Rho I apologize for any mistakes that have been made. We are all working very hard! Now there have been some changes. In effort to saving money we are sending all the lamps to the president of your chapter in one box for distribution! I hope you all enjoy! We are looking forward to seeing all of your faces at Mid-Year!

Till then.

Alisha Hulslander

Unscramble the words. The letters inside the O will answer this question ... What pledges to develop philanthropic activities and assistance that serve human needs to improve the quality of life of many people, participates in the Combined Federal Campaign and maintains tax exempt status by way of the turnaround fund?

RNAEELG _ _ _ O _ _ _

MBSREME _ _ _ _ _ O

SCSSANITEA _ _ _ _ _ O _ _ _

DUFN O _ _ _

PSHRCHISOAL _ _ _ O _ _ _ _ _

RUTNOSITCOBIN _ _ _ _ _ O _ _ _ _ _

EORSTUVENL _ _ _ _ O _ _ _ _

TADICNEUO _ O _ _ _ _ _ _ _

VITSCEAITI O _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

DUCELAEDBT _ _ _ _ _ O _ _ _

CISREVE _ _ _ _ O _ _

TREJSPOC _ _ O _ _ _ _ _

HROPAPYIHTLN _ _ _ _ _ O _ _ _ _ _

The Lamp Committee/Editor would like to take this opportunity to apologize to Pinky for not printing this article in the July lamp.

Outgoing President...Pinky Barbour

I would like to thank you all again for allowing me to represent you as your Florida State Council President..... I will never forget the chills and meaning of carrying our Florida State Flag at all of the opening and closing ceremonies this year. I will cherish with a lump in my throat, the American Flag, flown in my honor over Camp Buehring, Kuwait by our Hope for Heroes troops...I will always remember my beautiful Beta Theta Sisters for producing the most incredible installation of their first State President, along with Barbara and Bonnie...and the icing on the cake was being awarded the Outstanding Woman of the Year....Thanks for the wonderful State Convention chaired by Betty Sanders and hosted by our wonderful Gamma Rho sisters, and the members who stepped up to the plate from our disbanded Beta Omega chapter.. Everything was truly fabulous!!!. The Celebration of Life, was truly spectacular with the Butterfly Release, by our State Chaplain, (and my sponsor) Bonnie McGuire.

A very special thanks to all members for your constant support and belief in me on my “trek” of working my way up to the Presidency. I am so proud and pleased to have been part of a wonderful Florida State Board...both the Elected Board as well as the Appointed Board have been extremely supportive and dedicated to the true values of ESA. It made my job and experience so much easier to be surrounded by such dedicated visionaries.

We made some exciting changes, while still holding onto our wonderful ESA traditions. We reached many of our goals.....a wonderful Board Retreat during the summer, created our first Demographics Guide, a successful updating Diversification Panel, honored the special members who work “behind the scenes” in the promotion of ESA, through our coveted “Coco Awards”, updated our bylaws and standing rules to correlate with other States and IC and create more helpful training for St Jude and Easter Seals Chairs, energized our present membership to come out of our cocoons and spread our wings.....

A little over a year ago, I stood before you at State Convention and asked you to join me in the inspiration from the story of the butterfly and it’s metamorphosis from cocoon into a full grown beautiful monarch...and “Look Beyond Ourselves”WE DID IT!!!!!!

Robin Allred
1st Vice President

October already where does the time go ... Did you know that October has been declared ESA membership recruitment month? I know everyone has great rushes planned and I would love to hear about them! I would even like to attend some if they were on the weekend. I know you are all very much aware of the decline in our membership. This is so very sad that we are not sharing all the wonderful things that ESA has to offer. I would like each of us to dig deep in our hearts and think about what ESA has done for you and share that with your friends, family and coworkers. What makes ESA ... the people you meet, the places you go, the great things you do What makes it so special to you? I know you don't want anyone to miss out on the gifts you have received in ESA. Please be sure to let me know when you pledge a new member so I can welcome them and congratulate the sponsor.

I am so looking forward to Mid-Year in Ocala and wearing my team colors! I hope to see many of you there I know we will have a great time and maybe a few surprises, you never know what could happen when people team up together.

My mailman is getting bored because you have not sent your submission to run for office. I am sure it is just an oversight but please don't hesitate any longer. I am always available to answer any questions you might have (727) 282-8876 or robinallred@yahoo.com.

Since the next lamp will not be out again until January I wish you all a blessed Thanksgiving, a Very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Prosperous New Year.

Janice Harmon
Treasurer

At the writing of this report, we are WAY DOWN in membership. I have received payments from 21 chapters for a total of 250 members! So let the recruiting begin!!! I have not received rosters or payments from Alpha Gamma, Delta Nu or Delta Pi. If you are a member of any of these chapters, make sure that at your next business meeting to advise your treasurer to send me your chapter's dues. My mailing address is Janice Harmon, 12604 Twisted Oak Drive, Tampa, Florida 33624. Remember, if you do not pay your dues, you will not receive a yearbook or the Lamp.

Kayla Andux
Second Vice President

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME ESA!! The Holidays are fast approaching and you know what that means.....busy busy busy!! As we fill our calendars up with things to do and places to go don't forget the upcoming Mid-Year Tailgate Party on October 22nd in Ocala I hope to see everyone in their favorite team apparel I know the GATORS will be there! At mid-year and in your mailboxes very soon you will be receiving some information about the Florida State Councils latest and greatest upcoming meetings and a few incentives to get some meeting bids in. I am looking forward to speaking with each chapter about hosting a meeting! Remember as you are debating attending a meeting or even bidding for a meeting there is one thing that you can ALWAYS count on to greet your smile at a state meeting no matter how far away you may be from home.....your friends.

A friend is like a flower,
A rose to be exact,
Or maybe like a brand new gate
that never comes unlatched.
A friend is like an owl,
both beautiful and wise.
Or perhaps a friend is like a ghost,
whose spirit never dies.
A friend is like a heart that goes
strong until the end.
Where would we be in this world
if we didn't have a friend. - By Adrienne S

Lorena Lucas
Corresponding Secretary

Happy Fall! I am really looking forward to some cooler weather, how about you? Perhaps it would be a great time to take an adventurous ride in a hot air balloon! I just want to let you all know that you are really doing an awesome job at getting your minutes to me in time. Please know that I will send you an acknowledgment as soon as I have a chance. Your emails are date stamped, so as long as you send it in time, then I will mark it as being on time". Many of you are doing some exciting things and I look forward to hearing how you're Fall and Winter time meetings go. I love knowing about your plans! Keep up the good job! Peace

Sharon Roberts
Philanthropic Director

I hope all you enjoyed the summer and kept up with your philanthropic endeavors. Don't forget that I need to receive your Philanthropic Reports by September 30th. You can either send a "detail report" or a "nothing to report". If you have nothing to report, you can e-mail me at smr_fla@hotmail.com.

IMPORTANT: Pages 28 and 31 of the 2011-2012 Florida State Council Yearbooks have incorrect information. There is no November deadline. Reports are to be received by September 30th and March 31st. The Philanthropic Report form was featured in the July issue of The Lamp and can also be found on the Florida State website at esaflorida.net

The Florida School for the Deaf and Blind has a new Director of Development, Tanya Rhodes. I have been in contact with Tanya regarding our support of the school this year and they would like ESA to support upgrades to the playground in the Blind Department. I will have more information on this project to share with you at Mid-Year.

Lin King
Educational Director

The educational books and programs are arriving, and my letter carrier is wondering what's going on at my house! Here is the Little Ole Lady who gets the normal mail and packages – magazines, junk, a few letters, etc. – and all of a sudden, she's getting these BOXES that don't fit in the mailboxes at the kiosk and have to be delivered to my door! I am enjoying all of the books and presentations and looking forward to more. It is going to be an interesting year. Thank you all for your timeliness.

I am surprised and amazed at the similarity of so many of the chapter themes. I would like to publish the themes so everyone can be intrigued by what each chapter is presenting in a given month. Please contact me if you do not want your theme published; otherwise, I'm going to post them on the web. This is another way of sharing chapter information with each other. What do you think about featuring a presentation once a month on the web site?

Remember educationals are to be postmarked by the 10th of the month following the presentation.

Barbara Fry
Recording Secretary

"First keep peace within yourself, then you can also bring peace to others."
Thomas a' Kempia

The fast pace of the fall season is in full swing. I am looking forward to Mid-Year in Ocala and I sure hope to see you all there. Then the next week is SERC wow what a busy time is ahead for us.

There are so many new and exciting things happening in ESA I want to encourage you to check it all out at www.esaflorida.net and www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org These are wonderful tools for our use and really helps to keep us informed.

Hope you all have a terrific Fall Season and I send blessings and prayers for peace.

Annette Cobert
Chaplin

My Dear Sisters,
When was the last time you laughed – I mean hard enough and long enough to make you cry?
We certainly have shed tears, and rightly so, but now I think we could use some laughter to brighten our days. I looked to the Bible(NIV) for some answers, to see what God has to say. LK 6:21 "God blesses you who weep now, for the time will come when you will laugh with joy." Job 8:21 He (God) will yet fill your mouth with laughter and your lips with shouts of joy."

I am in awe of the notices that come to my email filled with so much love and compassion. It is my joy and privilege to send cards out to our sisters and their families. May I suggest something? Will you send me any praise reports you may receive as a result of our prayers and cards sent? I often wonder how those dear ones are. I would love to include your praises in my reports. I love that you send me notices of births; so far we have 1 girl and 2 boys. Woo Hoo! Congratulations to those families.

Eccl.3:4 says (there is)" A time to cry and a time to laugh" I say, the time to laugh is NOW. Let me know what has made you 'belly laugh' lately! I can't wait to hear.

Until next time, God Bless You my sisters.

Annette Cobert
5105 Counselor Drive # 202
Zephyrhills, FL 33541

Paula Kelly Care Connection

Well, my education is never ending. Golly. Just when I think I know it all. I checked the ESA website and found out that "ESA's Care Connection was developed as a link to provide a network of services to ESA members, their families and communities. The program is administered by the Senior Past President of the ESA International Council." There is a form to fill out that "connects" you to the network.

<http://www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/member-center/chapter-management/international-council/care-connection>. Each member who wishes to participate can fill out the form. You can check the boxes on the form that say you are willing to act as a contact person for an ESA member, family member, or friend relocating to your area, visiting and needs assistance, lives in area and needs assistance, have experience that could help someone who needs it, or if you need help. Wouldn't it be awesome if we all filled out the form?

Also, we cannot forget our Heroes. Coupons are still a viable option for helping pursuant to the ESA website.

MILITARY OVERSEAS COUPON PROGRAM

The process for finding the bases that participate in the Overseas Coupon Program has changed a little. Please go to the following military web site: <http://www.ocpnet.org/>

1. Go to the "Base List" tab. There you'll find a list of bases available to "adopt" and that are open to receive coupons
2. Click on the "Mailing" tab. There is also information near the bottom of the page on the best method for mailing the coupons.
3. Next go to the "Adoption" tab. Please read through the page on how to adopt a base. They request that you adopt a base because your adoption email is how they prove their charity to the U.S. Government. It is recommended that prior to sending coupons that you adopt a base.
4. Choose the "Adoption Form" tab and complete the form with your information.
5. Then mail you coupons to the base you chose to adopt.

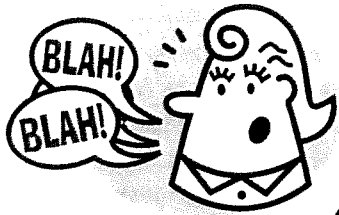
If you do not want to adopt a base, you may mail the coupons to an "open" base by checking the list at the website above (choose from the "Base List" tab) each time you want to mail the coupons to see which base is open. The adoption process is for verifying the program and for trying to keep donations even to each base. You adopt the base and then they can count on your steady donations each month (or some regular schedule you establish).

Janice Harmon Scrapbook

Well, it's that time again. The end of summer and back to school and working on all of our ESA projects. The one project I can't stress enough is getting pictures for Mary Jay's scrapbook! I have received a few e-mails from you with pictures but not nearly enough. Some of my friends (Sharon Roberts and Sharon Kalinowski of Beta Beta) have graciously helped me set up a Snapfish account. I am not computer literate and I have recruited these two wonderful ladies to help me with this task. Here are the instructions: The first option is you may e-mail photographs to my e-mail address at ESA-FL-Scrapbook@hotmail.com. I can then just upload your photographs to Snapfish. Or, if you wish you can upload your photos directly onto Snapfish. The user name for that account is ESA-FL-Scrapbook@hotmail.com and the password is: FloridaESA. Sharon Roberts was going to try to create a folder for each chapter to insert their photographs in so hopefully that will be up and running again soon. Thank you for all of the hard work you are all doing for this wonderful organization and I will see all of you at Mid-Year in October!!

Lin King Webmaster

If you have not visited our web site within the last 6 months, you need to go there! www.esaflorida.net There is CHANGE in the air! Some things have moved around, some have been highlighted for ease in locating, and new items have been added. Little inspirational quotes have been added here and there, the Chaplain's Corner has moved to its own page, there is a new section for Current Events which highlights items of interest to all of us, Special Features is a fun and informative page featuring items from headquarters as well as general interest items, and then there's the RECIPE section
- Y-U-M-M-M! Check it out, Ladies!



CHAPTER CHATTER

Alpha Rho-Start spreadin' the news.... I'm leavin' today..... I want to be a part of it, New York, New York.....

Alpha Rho is working hard to put together an exciting convention for you in the Big Apple (Tampa) next May and hope we will see all of you there! We've had several convention planning meetings to finalize all of the little details that will make a fun filled weekend for you in May 2012. President Lorena has a great year planned for us and is doing a super job keeping us engaged and moving forward with all of our projects. Most of our time over the next couple of months will be spent working on crafts for the annual craft sale at the Lake Park Craft Fair held the first weekend in December each year. At the same time our "Rockette's" will be working on centerpieces, decorations and favors for convention 2012, New York, New York.

Alpha Rho was pleased to host the Board meeting in August at the home of Julie Lentz. Julie and Jerry generously open their home and recreation building to us for many meetings and socials and we thank them so much. Our September meeting was held at the home of AR sister Sandy Rini who also gave an outstanding educational on scrapbooking. She showed us several of her completed books and gave us so many good tips of how to start our own. On other news, we have a couple of our sisters (Julie Lentz and Susan Stotts) who have been under the weather so please keep them in your thoughts and prayers that they have a speedy recovery. In closing: These little town blues are melting away – I'm gonna make a brand new start of it in old New York -
A – a – a- nd if I can make it there, I can make it anywhere
– It's up to you, New York, New York!

Beta Beta- Hi Ya'll. Is that too southern? Anyway, not too much has happened over the summer other than exciting trips by our members here and there. Two of our members had surgeries that have been awesomely successful, hallelujah.

Our first meeting in September after the summer lay-about started out with the theme from Rocky and our two presidents, Janice Harmon and Sharon Roberts entering the room throwing red white and blue marshmallows to the members. Girls Just Want to Have Fun is on a roll! Upcoming trips to Caledesi Island by ferry, to the Corn Maze, wine tasting, shopping at Dress Barn and playing Drag Queen Bingo will not be a drag. We are going to have fun. There are 6-9 of us riding in an RV to SERC in South Carolina. We will either be better friends after that or ...

Alpha NU-Alpha Nu is alive and well after a great summer. Now ready to buckle down and get back to our ESA Chapter activities under the leadership of our new officers:

Barbara Kalm President
Karen Pessaro, Vice President
Linda Takach, Secretaries
Joyce Andrade, Treasurer
Education, Sharon Haydon
Philanthropic, Kay Patskoski
Parliamentarian, Alice Schwindt
Chaplain, Jean Rien
St. Jude, Kathy Wildmann
Easter Seal, Dot Soderstrom

Barbara was installed by State Recording Secretary, Barbara Fry. Interesting enough, these two Barbara's have been friends and ESA Sisters for a very long time, when both were on the Florida State Board back in the 1970's!!

Our first big project is a Fashion Show at Cold Water Creek to benefit Florida School for the Deaf and Blind September 21st. And, Yes, we get to be the models!! We also will continue to support our Adopted student, Brandy at the school.

Among our continuing philanthropic projects is our local Sharing Center with a food donation each month. We are already working on for Hope for Hero projects by sending boxes to our Marine and our big monetary drive for the Veteran Dogs in November

Have already had two education programs as we study Holidays!! Ground Hog day was given by Sharon and Flag Day was given by Alice. We learned a lot about these two holidays that we did not know before. And isn't that what it is all about?

We look forward to our Mid-Year state meeting in Ocala and then off to SC for SERC before our Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations.

CHI OMEGA-In May, we welcomed our new members Pat Pye and Sally Rayburn. Wonderful new friends. Our June Chapter meeting and Social outing were combined with a delicious meal at Shrimp Shack.

Sharron Thompson attended the June Louisiana State Convention as the SERC representative.

July 6th we had a "family picnic" to introduce new members and their husbands to the rest of our "family". We had a great day! Plenty to eat with hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, fried chicken and delicious sides. Looking forward to doing this again.

August 17 we initiated another new member Marge Behedyt. Welcome aboard! Two more ladies are considering joining our group this fall. We are looking forward to their being in our "family".

GAMMA RHO-Betty Sanders attended the IC Convention in Overland Park, KS. It was great from beginning to end. She was the highest fund raiser in the Munchkin March Challenge for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital with \$3,670.00 and received a little Toto dressed as the Tin Man.

Our July meeting was hosted by Jo Schweinfurth, President. We finished signing up for meetings, educationals and socials. Donna Dittmer presented the first program in our "Fantasy of Flowers" series on Butchart Gardens in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Donna shared her photos and postcards from her visit there with her daughter and son in law.

Our August meeting was hosted by Gladys Bauer. We decided to be Mile Package Sponsor for the Give Thanks. Walk on November 19, 2011 to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Betty Sanders presented the second program in our 'Fantasy of Flowers' series on the Jonquil, the official flower of ESA. Photos were shared and writing was given to each attendee titled "Jonquils in a Jar".

Betty hosted our September meeting. Marti Johnson presented the third program in our "Fantasy of Flowers" series on The Language of Flowers. We had a visit from Jan Waggoner, former Beta Omega member, who will now reinstate and affiliate with Gamma Rho. Welcome Jan!

Looking forward to seeing you all at Mid-Year in Ocala.

OMEGA OMEGA - Omega Omega members have been busy and happy to share our activities with you.

Our first educational took us to the newly re-vamped DALI MUSEUM in Downtown St. Petersburg ending with dinner at the Hangar Restaurant planned by Tarsha Ahmad. Our second educational was based on our metric system. We learned a "number" of things from Roberta Boyles. Rolaine Little's educational was on gardening in Florida and Roberta Boyles spiced up the next meeting about herbs used in cooking.

We were one group of many who pitched in during the summer to help with a giant flea market...a fund raiser for the Girls and Boys Clubs of Pinellas Park. We also participated in Hospice's Beach Stroll. Tarsha is developing her nursing skills and has been "on the job" most of the summer.

Margaret Post, our president shared information from the International Convention in Kansas City. Our members who attended State Convention had a great time and are indebted to our sisters in Ft. Myers for their expertise in planning.

RHO CHI-The long "lazy", or is it busy, days of summer are soon coming to a close. Where did the summer go? Rho Chi members are geared up and ready to face the fall with a positive attitude. The Buc's preseason games are on their way and we are hoping for a fun profitable season. We also have a yard sale in the works for October. We do find time to have a little fun with a "tea social" during the summer and a picnic at sunset coming up later in September.

Rho Chi is very proud to announce that in the next few weeks we are going to have a new college graduate among our members! We are so proud of Tina Shafer's accomplishments; she is an inspiration to us all.

Three of our members have been involved in car accidents in the recent months, our ladies are ok with only a few bumps and bruises but we cannot say the same for the cars. We are blessed that the cars were strong and well-made and kept them safe. Since things usually happen in sets of three, I think that we are done with car accidents for a while.

We are all looking forward to cheering for our favorite teams this October at our Mid-Year meeting in Ocala.

Like all families we have our ups and downs, but like all families we love and protect each other. "I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it. We are in charge of our Attitudes". We are letting go and going out into that "blue yonder" and exploring all of the new possibilities.

ETA RHO-Hey, Hey, Hey! In June Eta Rho had a girl's night at Tokyo's Japanese Steakhouse to celebrate our 3rd birthday!

We began our ongoing support for Fredrick's Ataxia (FA) with the kids walk in Palm Harbor where everyone dressed as pirates and had a scavenger hunt. Then we got to meet some real heroes at the "Get Fit For Charity" event as they jumped, ran and lifted to support FA. We were honored to get all dressed up and help with registration at the annual FARA Ball where our very own Dawn Lambert and family were recognized for their on-going fight to cure FA.

We participated in Safety Harbor's Freedom Walk on 9/11 and will have a booth every month at their 3rd Friday event. We will have games and promote ESA as well as raise funds for many different charities kicking off with St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in October.

We have been working hard preparing for September's Bay Area Meeting as well as experiencing many awesome educationals as we journey "In Our Red High Heels".