

**International Convention - July 6-12, 2008.
Joy leads the Kansas Delegation in Chattanooga Tennessee.**



The opening flag ceremony was especially impressive this year as it featured many of our troops that ESA had contact with over the past couple of years. Each branch of the service was represented by presenting one of their hats on a podium shared with the State Flags. Joy displays the Kansas flag which was her honor to post during the ceremony. The convention opening ceremonies are always one of the highlights of the convention.



The Kansas delegation always has its State's night out and Jerry Hymer comes to take our picture at one of the local spots of color. Here we are at the "BIG RIVER Grille". (Below) It wouldn't be a convention without a formal time and night to dress up in our very best. Our Saturday night group shot in front of the new theme for the 2008.



The Kansas delegation was small this year, but made up for its numbers by the enthusiasm they took to Chattanooga, Tennessee. (L) The 2011 convention to be hosted by Kansas in Overland Park was promoted by Linda Bottom, Susan Winters, Coleen Cape,

Maureen Wells, Pam McElvain, Joy Thornbrugh, and Barb Dunlap at the Convention site tables on Thursday night. We let them know that they were coming to KANSAS in 2011!

Kansas received many top honors this year at IC convention. Be sure to go to the honors page and check out all the wonderful women who were recognized for their outstanding leadership for ESA this past year. Kansas should be real proud of their outstanding leadership.

The week began for most of us on Tuesday when most of the workshops are held. Joy attended the State President's workshop while the rest of us spread ourselves between the other workshops. Wednesday's feature activity was the Certified Leadership Seminar, "Imagine the Possibilities - The Power to Inspire". Our own Verneene Forssberg was part of the Committee that put this seminar



together. Pictured on the Right is Lisa Earl Mcleod who spoke to over 300 attendees on "Forget Perfect - Imagine the Possibilities". One thing you always get when attending IC convention is excellent speakers to motivate and challenge your leadership development. Other speakers at the convention were Mary Foley, Carol Grace Anderson, John Moses of ALSAC, and we even got challenged to the beat of Confederate Railroad at the Thursday night mixer!



Mary Foley (left) tells us how to "live like your nail color." at the Certified Leadership Seminar on Wednesday. She brought down the house in her superwoman costume.

Convention is filled with fun, meeting old friends and making new ones. This is what makes you want to come back for more. As usual the Mystery Night Event kept us in stitches as we solved the mystery of "who done it" and even dreamed of the possibility of walking away with some additional cash in our pockets.

Kansas walked away with many award this year which are listed on the honors page. Pam was given the honor of accepting many of the Kansas awards since they were received during the 2007-2008 year in which she served as the Kansas President. She is pictured with Mike Burns who retires his association with ESA this year.



ESA made almost \$11 million again this year for St. Jude Children's Hospital and it always rocks the building when the total is announced on Saturday night.