

2009 State Convention Synopsis

A “Joyful” time was had by all at the 64th Annual Kansas State Convention at the Ramada Inn in downtown Topeka. The convention committee and members of District A hosted a wonderful weekend full of celebrating the accomplishments made this year after accepting President Joy’s challenge “Free To Be.”

Friday morning began with the final Kansas State Council meeting of the year. The State Council Luncheon followed and committee chairs were given the opportunity to thank their committees.

The First General Assembly was opened with a beautiful flag ceremony presented by Maureen Wells, Lamplighter President. Among special guests introduced were Rose Pasillas, IC Treasurer and IC Representative and former Kansas State Council member Jan Faulkner, 2008-2009 North Carolina State President.

Chapter Presidents, District Chairs, and Lamplighters gathered in assigned rooms for dinner workshops and then everyone moved to the Atrium Area for the Benefit Tractor Races for St. Jude Children’s Hospital. Riding children’s tractors are not as easy as it looks, especially the ones that “buck” you off. The mixer followed with candidates lip-synching to music associated with the office they were bidding for. The Ways and Means committee completed the evening by auctioning off donated baskets and giving everyone a chance to bid on many silent auction items.

President Joy called the second general assembly to order on Saturday morning where candidates for office were introduced and nominations from the floor were called for. While voting was in process the St. Jude Circle of Life presentation was given by ALSAC representative, Niki Leonard. She expressed her appreciation for the work of ESA and then introduced the St. Jude family. After a touching story from our St. Jude patient, motivational speaker Judy L. Young had the task of bringing “The Magic of Laughter” back into the group. This was successfully done by using “Ha Ha, Ha, Ho Ho, Ho, Hee Hee, Hee....!”

Senior High Youth Award winner, Alyssa Buxam was introduced to those attending the celebration luncheon. Mistress of ceremonies, Kerri Cole, Awards and Celebrations Chair, led the celebration giving many awards to chapters and individuals. Immediately following the luncheon it was time to get ready for the evening banquet and installation of officers. In place of a dance again this year Sunflower Harmony Sweet Adeline’s provided the entertainment by singing several songs from their collection.

Sunday morning came bright and early with the Celebration of Life Service, conducted by Chaplain Crystal Collinsworth. Joy called the third and final assembly to order as everyone enjoyed a brunch and more awards. The highlight of the convention is always the anticipation of the most prestigious award: Outstanding Chapter for the year. This year’s winner was Beta Beta, Andover. The meeting was closed with all joining hands and reciting the closing ritual. Preparation is already beginning for next year in Olathe. Make plans now – you don’t want to miss it.

Spring Kansas State Council Meeting - Synopsis

District A hosted members of the Kansas State Council Board of Directors and guests at the downtown Ramada Inn in downtown Topeka. The meeting was held on Friday morning at the Kansas State Convention weekend.

President Joy Thornbrugh opened the meeting and led those present in the flag salute and opening ritual. Crystal Collinsworth, Chaplain, gave devotions. Roll call was answered by the members' room numbers. President Joy introduced special guests, Rose Pasillas, IC Treasurer and IC Representative for the weekend. Joy then asked that the following people stand and be recognized: First Time Board Members, First-Time Attendees and New and reinstated ESA Members and their sponsors.

Reports were given by several chairpersons. Their articles appear elsewhere in the News and Views.

Joy reported the appointments of tellers, doorkeepers, pages and timekeeper for the general assemblies.

Pat Josey, 1st VP/ President Elect, extended an invitation to the summer board meeting that will be hosted by District I. It will be held at the Ramada Inn (formerly the Holiday Inn) in Salina, August 7 and 8 for leadership activities and August 9 for the Kansas State Council Meeting. This will be a great weekend to see our District I sisters that we don't get to see often and to welcome and meet our new Lambda Pi sisters.

The meeting was adjourned and the members attended the State Council Luncheon.