

**Georgia State Council  
Mid-Year Board Meeting**



**Monroe County Club House, Forsyth, Georgia  
February 22, 2020**

**Georgia State Council President Kim New** called the Georgia State Council 2020 Mid-Year Meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. She welcomed everyone to Forsyth. She advised some members were welcomed last night during a special “Hope for Heroes” event at the hotel led by our Social Chair, Susan McVey. Kim thanked Susan, Debbie Glore and Vicki Warren for making the event last night wonderful, while helping our troops by making blankets for them. The blankets made were displayed on a table, along with socks and hygiene items that members brought for the veterans. Last year a few things were implemented that will continue this year. For example, meeting minutes and reports are posted to the website to allow easier access and to save on printing cost. Also, name tags, credentials and registration reports will be used for roll call, just as was done at the Fall Board Meeting. Each table has a disposable camera for use throughout the meeting. Pictures from the Fall Board Meeting were made available to anyone who wants them. Kim introduced and welcomed the two new Georgia Chapters, Omega Phi and Zeta Gamma. She recognized the Mid-Year host Chapter, Alpha Nu, inviting Connie Presley to welcome the council. Connie welcomed all members to the meeting.

**Chaplain Kaye Genovese** gave an “Opening Thought” of a “Hope for Heroes” inspiration, showing a “Salute to our Veterans” video.

**Second Vice President Wanda Price** led the members in the reciting of the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

**President Kim New** led the members in the reciting of our traditional “Opening Ritual.” Members of Epsilon Sigma Alpha, we meet again to pledge ourselves anew to the vows of our ritual which we accepted in the golden glow of a candle-light room. Let us be ever mindful of the responsibilities that we pledge to our organization, keep faith with ourselves and our members, be tolerant and sincere and ever worthy to wear the badge that symbolizes virtue, honor, truthfulness and friendliness.

**Parliamentarian Romanda Talley** reviewed Parliamentary Procedures/Rules governing a Georgia State Council Meeting.

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.

**Credentials Chair Vicki Warren** presented the following credentials:

<u>14</u> of <u>17</u> Chapters were represented for a total of:	30 Chapter Votes
	18 GSC Past Presidents Votes
Total Votes:	48

**Recording Secretary Gail Marchant** advised that in accordance with the Bylaws, the Minutes Committee reviewed and approved the minutes of the September 2019 meeting. The minutes were also posted to the GSC Website. With no objections, the reading of the minutes was dispensed. Gail moved to accept the September Fall Board Meeting Minutes as written. Coming from a Committee a second is not required. President, Kim, called for discussion and presented the question. Afterwards, she called for the vote. The motion carried.

**Treasurer Susan Garner** provided the following Treasurer's report:

Checking Account Balance as of September 12, 2019:	<u>\$12,696.91</u>
Income:	<u>\$ 377.44</u>
Disbursements:	<u>(\$ 3,060.94)</u>
Balance on Hand as of January 31, 2020:	<u>\$10,013.41</u>
Savings Account Balance as of January 31, 2020:	<u>\$ 6,045.34</u>
Candidates Fund Account Balance as of January 31, 2020:	<u>\$ 3,422.12</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS as of January 31, 2020:</b>	<b><u>\$19,480.87</u></b>

Copies of the Treasurer's Report, Checking and Saving Account Registers were placed in the Chapter President's Packets. There were no questions, therefore, the Treasurer's Statement will be filed for Audit.

**Meeting Registration Chair Connie Presley** provided the following 2020 Mid-Year Meeting Registration report (Updated Report):

14 out of 17 chapters have members attending.

Members:	57
Members (Pledges):	3
Guest(s):	0
Total Registered:	60
Total Room used	10

**Membership Chairs Vicki Warren and Wanda Price** recognized to the First Time Attendees and Pledges by presenting them with a special prize. President Kim also provided each a gift.

Members attending a state meeting for the first time: 5  
Pledges attending: 3  
Guest attending: 0

Vicki and Wanda gave a special prize and recognition to the Pledges and their Sponsor by drawing one of the Pledges name from a container. Lisa Shankles, along with her sponsor, Marion Hunter, were each a recipients of a prize.

**Second Vice President and Membership Chair Wanda Price** gave the following IC Membership report as of January 1, 2020:

Active IC Chapters	17
Jewel Pin Members	89
MAL Members	1
Pledge Members	<u>13</u>
TOTAL	103

**President Kim New** thanked the GSC for sending her to the SERC Convention. She was honored to represent Georgia ESA. It was her first trip to Raleigh, NC and thoroughly enjoyed it. Arriving Thursday night provided the opportunity for an impromptu Georgia dinner at the hotel restaurant. On Friday, they walked to a local outdoor mall, where they shopped, ate lunch outside at the Village Draft House and even hula-hooped. Friday night all attended the “ESA Jewels” themed welcome party.

Saturday, Pinky Barbour, our SERC President last year, introduced a representative for her Presidents Project, which was “Folds of Honor,” who told us about the program. SERC collected \$2100.00 for Folds of Honor, which was presented to the representative.

President Kim New and Susan Garner were honored to be appointed as the SERC Awards Chairs this year. Since the Awards Luncheon was themed “Bright Stars,” cardboard “shooting stars” were purchased. They were cumbersome, and required assemble, however, they looked great at the “Photo Op” spot. They announced the winners and shared all the amazing accomplishments. All enjoyed Saturday evening’s banquet and Officer Installation.



**First Vice President/Nominating Committee Chair Vicki Warren** called for Candidates. She advised, according to GSC Bylaws, Article 2, Section 2B, the Nominating Committee shall solicit nominations from the chapters for the four elected positions of the State Executive Board ninety (90) days prior to the State Convention. The Elected Officers are First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer. She sent emails to each Chapter President on January 31, 2020, meeting these guidelines. She will accept nominations through March 17<sup>th</sup>. She advised interested members to review the duties and responsibilities of these offices, found under Article 8, Section 2 of the GSC Bylaws. Vicki encouraged all to consider running for an office.

**Second Vice President Wanda Price** provided the 2022 Convention report. She thanked those chapters who committed to host the 2019-2020 (Alpha Beta) and the 2020-2021 (Gavelettes) GSC Conventions. She further requested any chapter or chapters interested in hosting the 2021-2022 convention to contact her, encouraging all chapters to consider hosting.

**Corresponding Secretary Venetia Lewallen** advised a "Thank You" letter from Easterseals for Georgia's donation was received. She requested each chapter submit a story and/or photos for the upcoming newsletter, themed "Candy Grams coming your way for V-Day," highlighting the special bonds in your chapter. She thanked those who have already contributed to the edition, advising this Sunday is the deadline for submission. She reminded the members of Danny Thomas being in the room today. All were requested to rub Danny Thomas' nose to find a hidden number under it. We will find out the purpose of the "numbers hidden beneath Danny's nose" at our State Convention.

**Junior Past President/Disaster Fund Chair Debbie Glore** provided her report. Contributions received from Georgia ESA Chapters to-date is \$664. She encouraged all to donate to the fund and complete the donation slips contained in the blue donation bags on each table. She hopes to reach donations totaling \$2,000.00 this year. She thanked all for their donations.

**Parliamentarian Romanda Talley** advised an email was sent on January 4, 2020 to all members soliciting any bylaw or standing rule proposed amendments by February 15<sup>th</sup>. Changes were received and reviewed by the Bylaws Committee and the Executive Board. They will be sent to all Chapters for consideration at least 30 days prior to the final vote at Convention.

It is noted that several of the changes are housekeeping. For example, the word *Jonquil* is found in our Bylaws and Standing Rules. This word will be changed to *Journey* as ESA Headquarters changed the name of our magazine from *Jonquil* to *Journey*. Also the Easter Seals organization combined their "two word" name to one, "Easterseals." The Bylaws and Standing Rules pertaining to these housekeeping items will be grouped into one change for possible voting seriatim, eliminating a long time span. She referred all to our Policy Manual on the GSC website for any question they may have. Gennie Gilvin displayed the site on the screen. Romanda thanked her Bylaws Committee, Susan Knudson and Debbie Glore.

Romanda reminded all of the Parliamentarian question she asked at the Fall Board Meeting, with Pat Griffin, Susan Knudson and Gail Marchant responding with correct answers. Those who answered correctly were requested to provide one question each for the assembly at this meeting. Pat's question was on "Motions." Susan's question pertained to "Privileged Motions." Gail's question was about the "Rules of a Small Board." The people with correct answers were Pat Griffin and Gennie Gilvin. Romanda provided a gift to those answering correctly. Today's winners will each present a parliamentarian question at convention.

## APPOINTED OFFICERS REPORTS

**Association of the Arts Chairs Brittany Rogers & Megan Watson** referred to the Association of the Arts information printed on the back side of the Awards Spreadsheet that was given to all at the meeting. Brittany Rogers's mailing address is also provided on the form. April 15<sup>th</sup> as the deadline for submission.

**Awards Chair Debbie Glore** began her report by encouraging chapters to complete and submit their chapter's award forms. She advised the new award forms with some new guidelines are available for use on the Georgia website. Each member was provided with a "Cheat Sheet" that was compiled with information of who each award should be sent to this year. She related the new "Ideals" book is available on the website, along with the revision of the Pallas Athene awards. She re-iterated, April 15<sup>th</sup> as the deadline for all award submissions.

**Easterseals Chair Darlene James** reminded all to report to her any donation(s) they or their chapter gave to Easterseals this year.

**Finance Chair Susan Knudson** reported the Executive Board approved all of her ideas for the finance Project at the 2020 Convention. The fundraising will consist of three (3) projects; "Split the Pot" raffle with one (1) ticket for \$3.00 or two (2) for \$5.00 with a 50/50 split; raffle of a painting done by Gennie Gilvin and a quilt made by Connie Presley and an auction. She requested each chapter to bring at least one (1) item valued at a minimum of \$25.00. The item can be lottery tickets, baskets, money tree, etc. Raffle tickets were placed in each Chapter President's packet.

**Foundation Counselor Pat Griffin** related of thirty-three (33) Georgia members and four (4) chapters having paid their dues this year. She reminded all of the need to pay their dues by February 28<sup>th</sup>, for eligibility to vote on Foundation business. Pat also reminded all to use the "Turn-Around Fund," which has not been used much this year. She added this year's donation to the Georgia State Council Endowment was \$350.00. She went on to say that Jean Johnson planned to announce at this meeting that she started an endowment scholarship at the Foundation. Since Jean passed away on February 4, 2020, Pat shared the particulars; scholarship is named the "Jean Johnson Memorial Endowment;" the scholarship has a starting balance of \$25,000.00; is to be given to a Georgia resident, any major, any university, college or technical school and the student must have a 3.0 GPA to be eligible. She encouraged members to honor Jean's memory with a memorial contribution to the scholarship initiated by her and named for her, especially due to the absence of a Memorial Service for her.

**President Kim New** called for a "Moment of Silence" in the memory of Jean Johnson.

**Philanthropic Chair Sharon Smoot** reminded all to count philanthropic monies, hours and time donated, requesting all to report the numbers on their Philanthropic Report.

**Scrapbook Chair Venetia Lewallen** asked for a volunteer, then selected Monette Horton to participate in an imaginary skit involving holding and looking at a large scrapbook containing all the photos sent in by each chapter. She asked each chapter to send in photos from this year of their chapter members for the scrapbook.

**St Jude Senior Chair Frances Jennings** related of Georgia's funds to St. Jude to-date as \$992,269.00. She advised \$15,000.00 credit from the Warrior Dash not yet been included in this total. Once added, Georgia's total will surpass \$1,000,000.00. Certificates earned will be given at our State Convention.

Frances advised she is not receiving the Completed St. Jude forms anymore. She encouraged all to register as a St. Jude volunteer at <https://volunteer.stjude.org>, then click on Register at the top right of the page. She added that she no longer automatically receives copies of St. Jude Booked or Completed Forms, therefore, she requests to be copied when each form is completed. Connie Presley will chair the Dream Home in Middle Georgia (Warner Robins or Kathleen), with Romanda Talley chairing the Savannah Dream Home. Connie advised she had her volunteer sign-up sheet for Middle Georgia, if anyone wanted to sign-up. Open house will begin May 9<sup>th</sup>. See Romanda for a volunteer opportunity at the Savannah Dream Home. Frances related of having the chapter St. Jude totals if anyone wants to see them.

**Yearbook Chairs Karen Smith** advised the updated GSC 2019-2020 Yearbook will be presented to President Kim once completion has occurred.

**The meeting recessed for an eight (8) to ten (10) minutes break.**

President Kim New resumed the meeting by reiterating we were celebrating “Hope for Heroes” at this meeting. She asked members to stand if they participated in any “Hope for Heroes” programs this year. She provided candy that Stormy Bowie and Debbie Lamp’l handed out to all of the members standing.

**Hope for Heroes Chair Ruth Ann Edge** presented a “hands on” “Hope for Heroes” project for all to complete. She provided the supplies that were given out to make a small red, white and blue wooden American Flag. She suggested we place them on the red, white and blue material wreath we made at the 2019 Leadership Meeting.

**Chaplain Kaye Genovese** provided the Luncheon Prayer.

**President Kim** recessed the meeting for lunch, after requesting the “Pledge,” “Person and Chapter of the Year” be first in line to obtain their lunch, followed by all the new members, first time attendees and veterans.

**President Kim resumed the meeting following lunch at 1:00 p.m.**

#### **Under Unfinished Business**

**2020 Convention Chair Gail Marchant** provided a report of the “Ohana” themed Convention. It will be held at the Hilton Marietta Conference Center on 5/15-5/17/20. Registration deadline is April 10<sup>th</sup>. She asked people to register as soon as possible, reminding all of the special prize drawing for those registering before March 1<sup>st</sup>. Hotel registration deadline is April 13<sup>th</sup>. For your convenience, Registration and ad forms were placed in the Chapter President Packets. They were also available from Stormy Bowie. Gail reminded all to wear their Hawaiian clothing, accessories, etc. Friday evening, then sit back, relax and enjoy the entertainment by Elvis or “Jelvis.” The Gavelettes were reminded to include the cost of the Gavelette Luncheon when they register for the convention.

**2022 SERC Conference Chairs Romanda Talley & Susie Knudson** did not have a report.

#### **Under New Business**

**Corresponding Secretary Venetia Lewallen** presented the following Executive Board Recommendation:

The ESA Georgia State Council Executive Board recommends that we purchase a half page ad in the IC Convention Program for Gail Marchant, who will be running for an IC office. The cost will be \$50.

*Note-The purchase of ads for the program is already a line item in our budget this year.*

If approved, the ad must be submitted by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

President Kim called for discussion and presented the question. Afterwards, she called for the vote. The motion carried.

**2022-2023 GSC Local Convention Chairman Susie Knudson** announced her chapter submitted a bid for the 2023 GSC Convention. A location has not been selected yet, however, they plan to focus on Merry Acres in Albany or Little Ocmulgee State Park near McRae. They selected the theme, “Rock and Roll with ESA,” planning to journey through four decades of Rock and Roll.

**President Kim** recognized the host chapter, Alpha Nu, thanking them for hosting the meeting. She also recognized Susan McVey, thanking her for a wonderful social night last night. Totals received for the Disaster Fund and Easterseals will be given at a later date. President, Kim, thanked all who donated to “Hope for Heroes.” She reminded all of the GSC Convention dates and the Chapter Presidents to pick up their chapter packets.

**Chaplain Kaye Genovese** provided her closing thought of an inspiration, authored by Leroy Brownlow, entitled, “Love Binds.” To quote, *“No rope or cable on earth can bind as fast as a single thread of love. It fastens like a lock and is as strong as steel. No one can know it’s might unless he has been on the end of the strand. It is too strong for any mortal to describe, except in one word: God, for God is love. It is the golden thread that binds heart to heart: the irresistible, unseen force that draws people together, you to me and me to you. It is the world’s most unifying quality, which makes each a part of all.”*

Elizabeth Wilson, with the Omega Phi Chapter, was the winner of President Kim’s Meeting Attendance Prize, a beautiful “Mid-Year” coffee mug.

**President Kim adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m.**

**The traditional Closing Ritual was recited by all:**

*“ETERNAL FATHER, MASTER OF ALL GOOD WORKS, GUIDE AND DIRECT US THAT WE MAY REMAIN STEADFAST IN OUR HEARTS AND FAITHFUL TO OUR PLEDGE. MAY WE BE REMINDED THAT GRACIOUSNESS, POISE AND FRIENDLINESS ARE OUR GOALS; AND AS WE GO OUR SEPARATE WAYS TO EVER HOLD ALOFT THE RAY FROM THE LAMP OF LEARNING THAT THOSE WHO FOLLOW IN OUR FOOTSTEPS MAY BE GUIDED BY ITS LIGHT.”*

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2019-2020 GSC Recording Secretary  
Gail Marchant

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2019-2020 GSC State President  
Kim New