The State Council meeting was called to order by president, Gwynn Nell Swanson, at 10:47 a.m. on Saturday, November 12, 2011, at the Goodrich Methodist Church, Norman, Oklahoma. Dr. Billye Peterson, recording secretary, was not present. Minutes were taken by Linda Southerland, treasurer.

Members stood for the opening ritual led by Janice Shockley. Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Carrie Willingham.

Chaplain Linda Leveridge gave a Thought for the Day, “The Master’s Hand”. She asked that all our sisters be remembered with prayers and cards.

Gwynn Nell welcomed all members and stated she hoped everyone enjoyed the Christmas party Friday evening. She recognized Delta Kappa members for being hostesses for today’s meeting and for the great lunch they have prepared.

Gwynn Nell recognized the Sooner Seniorettes. There were no first-time Council meeting attendees. There were 4 guests, 0 New Pledges, 0 DESA’s, 0 Elan’s, and 0 MESA’s.

Joyce Whitewing-Slate, Chair, Linda Voss and Jacque Edwards were the committee to read the minutes of the August Leadership. None of the committee was present so Gwynn Nell reported that the minutes were correct as printed and will be placed on file.

Gwynn Nell announced the following appointments: Committee to approve minutes of this meeting: Nancy Buck, Chair; Gwen Beasley and Mary Adams.

Linda Southerland gave the treasurer’s report. There are 18 chapters who have not paid their dues yet. Balance forward was $3,583.62. Income was $4,039.55; expenses $1,640.43, leaving a balance as of November 12, 2011, of $5,982.74. Also in the Speaker’s Fund is $1,207.33; the IC Campaign Fund has $219.36; and the Doer’s Fund has $172.25. The CD as of 11-1-11 is $4,030.09. The treasurer’s report was placed on file. She announced that 17 chapters have not paid their dues.

Project Director, Margaret Kramer, reported that the OSD Tour had 34 attend. She reported that ESA currently sponsors 80 children at OSD and 73 at OSB with 21 OSD students still in need of sponsors and 15 at OSB needing sponsors. Project fund balancer as of November 10, 2011 is $825. She then announced that the OSB tour date will be 2-25-12.

Gwynn Nell read a letter from IC reporting that member dues would be raised effective January 1, 2012. New member dues will be: Regular member- $49; Senior member -$45.
Sue Knight, corresponding secretary read regrets and correspondence. Gwynn Nell read a Thank You card from Sue Knight.

First Vice President/Nominating Chair, Joyce Gibson reminded everyone of the nominating committee and that she would love to have nominations sent in.

Second Vice President/Educational Director Tina Davenport-McKamie gave a mini-educational on Walking. She stressed the importance of using the right shoes and socks and that you need to warm up and cool down before and after exercising. She gave examples of some easy stretching exercises and had those present do the exercises with her.

Connie Johnson, Parliamentarian, reminded everyone to submit changes in bylaws and standing rules to her by March 1, 2012.

Reports from District Coordinator: District II Coordinator, Sylvia Ochs, reported on District II Leadership and announced the installation of officers will be Saturday March 24, 2011 in Kingfisher.

Deb Hughes, Senior past president thanked those who gave donations for the St. Jude Marathon to be run on December 3, 2011 in Memphis.

Awards Chair, Judy Cravens gave a report on Awards and encouraged everyone to enter the “What ESA Means to Me” essay contest.

2012 Convention hostesses performed a skit to invite everyone to the 2012 Oklahoma State Convention ESA in the Country at the famous Holiday Inn, Norman, on April 27-29, 2012.

Linda Leveridge gave a devotional and we recessed for lunch at 12:07 pm. (During lunch, members helped Peggie Sprinkle fill “Boxes for Heroes”.)

Joyce Lacey-Kenney, Credentials Chair, gave a report about having dues paid to be eligible for contests at State Convention.

Directory Chair, Mary Adams reported that 99 directories have been sold and she has six left to sell.

Peggie Sprinkle, Care Connection Coordinator gave a report on Care Connection/Hope for Heroes and introduced Cogi Beattie and Betty Worley (2 special guests). Peggie thanked them for serving our Country and for coming today to share their stories.

Gwynn Nell introduced Dr. Heather Bentley, veterinarian, our special speaker for today who told us how to care for our pets and some other tips on first aid, cold weather and traveling with pets.

Nancy Baucom gave a report on the Association of the Arts.

ESA Foundation Counselor, Ramona Paine-Means reminded everyone to pay Foundation dues and gave a report on the new contest the Foundation is sponsoring.

ESA for St. Jude Chair, Judi York reminded everyone of the Give Thanks Walk in Tulsa and about the Tulsa Dream Home. Aletha Bolt reminded everyone of the Give Thanks Walk in OKC. The walks will be held on Saturday, November 19, 2011.
Jo Rott, Easter Seals Chair, gave a report on the visit to Easter Seals in OKC on October 6th.

Cathy Holsted, 2012 IC Convention Chair, gave details on the IC Convention and passed around a sheet to sign if you plan to be at the convention so she can have a better handle on what everyone needs to do.

Sue Patterson, Contest chair, gave a report.

Gwynn Nell asked for announcements. Louise Maloy announced that Alpha Nu, Arapaho had pecans and cookbooks for sale. Door prizes were drawn. Robbin Brown announced that the early registration for State Convention drawing was won by Linda Southerland.

Cathy Holsted announced Billie Fritch won the raffle drawing at her 50/50 booth.

Gwynn Nell declared the meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m. and led everyone in the closing ritual.

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