

Arizona Council Bulletin

December 2024



Hello to Everyone,

Hope all enjoyed the November Council Meeting as much as I did. It was so good to see all of you in Tucson. There were great opportunities for all of us to participate in making personal or chapter donations to several philanthropic endeavors that the chapters attending could participate in helping. It is that time of the year when we can really help make a difference in the lives of many who can use a little sunshine, especially our veterans, and families with children who could use a little sunshine to help put a big smile on those beautiful children.

If there are any opportunities in your community that you and your chapter could help during this season of giving, please please do so! You have no idea what a difference we all could make by just a small donation or a small gift for a veteran, a person with no family nearby, or a child. Please give it some thought.

Hope all had a great Thanksgiving. I want to wish all of you a joyous season. Enjoy your family and friends when and where you can. Even if it is just a phone call, please make it.

Hope all to see many of you in January. Please be safe and take care!

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Hugs to you and yours!
Deana



1st Vice President

I attended the ESA HQ membership Zoom call on November 7th. The call focused on the next 5 years for ESA, as we move towards our 100th year. What do we want ESA to look like in 2029? The overall membership theme for the coming year will be “An Eye Toward 100: Thrive in ‘25”.

ESA’s strategic plan directs members, chapters, and states to look at how they plan to thrive going forward. What does it mean for us to thrive? Thrive means to prosper, or develop vigorously. At the November State Council meeting, attendees spent time reflecting on how they, PERSONALLY, plan to thrive in ESA in 2025. This is a good challenge for each Arizona member. After all, our state needs EACH ONE OF US to be engaged in order for our state to thrive.

A Map Your Garden handout was also distributed to chapter representatives to take back to their chapters for thinking about how chapters can nurture growth in 2025.



Much like a garden, we should be looking at how we can grow and nurture the garden that is our ESA chapter. The following ideas were provided to help get started. Chapters can work with these suggestions or map ideas of their own.

1. Expand community partners so our name (ESA) gets familiar
2. Personalize membership – chapters don’t have to look alike and members want to be part of something they can fit into rather than be shaped into

3. Reach out to different age groups, industry or interest groups (book clubs, bowling groups, etc.)
4. Think “publicity”
 - a. Examples
 - i. Locally: publicize anniversaries/declarations for AZ ESA
 - ii. Ask organizations we volunteer for to put something on their social media pages about what we did for them
 - iii. ESA logo-wear - generates inquiry about what ESA is
5. Create exciting ways to onboard new members to generate enthusiasm at the get-go

I hope that each chapter will take some time to think about what steps they can take to energize their chapter and ESA experience.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Joyous New Year.

Terrie Rust
terrie_rust@hotmail.com



Now seeking potential candidates for State Council Board positions for 2025-2027. This is your chance to be part of your state’s leadership team. Positions: 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Not sure what those positions entail? Refer to **Arizona’s Way in ESA** in the Member Center of the Arizona Council website or reach out to your state officers. Candidate forms (also available on the AZ Council website) and letters of recommendation from the nominating chapter should be sent to the AZ Council President **no later than March 1st** so the information can be disseminated prior to elections at the April State Council meeting.

Not quite ready to step into a state leadership role? Then please consider an Appointed Board position or serving on a committee. You can designate your interest on the Willing to Serve form. If you have questions about these, please reach out to Terrie Rust (terrie_rust@hotmail.com).

Philanthropic

Happy Holidays to everyone,

Thanks to all the chapters that turned in reports last month. We are off to a good start with our volunteer and collectibles projects.

I mentioned at the council meeting that I have found where to recycle Crayons. I have attached a flyer about them. The collected crayons can be dropped off at Staples.

<https://thecrayoninitiative.org/give-crayons/>

Be sure to check out their website!

Roxanne Vitt
602-469-4818 rrvitt@aol.com



WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR UNWANTED CRAYONS?

Millions of pounds of crayons are discarded every year, turning into a waxy sludge that clogs our landfills. With your help, we can recycle and remanufacture them into new, free crayons for kids in children's hospitals across the U.S. Join us and color a life at thecrayoninitiative.org.

1 Crayons are used by children in homes, schools & restaurants

2 Unwanted crayons are dropped into a collection container

3 Collected crayons are sent to The Crayon Initiative

4 The old crayons are remanufactured into **NEW** crayons

5 Crayons are shipped to children's hospitals

6 New crayons are enjoyed by pediatric patients

THE Crayon INITIATIVE

[@thecrayoninitiative](https://thecrayoninitiative.org) [The Crayon Initiative](https://thecrayoninitiative.org) [@thecrayoninitiative](https://thecrayoninitiative.org) [@ShareYourColors](https://thecrayoninitiative.org)



Philanthropic Collectibles Projects 2024-2025			
Item	Who Collects	Philanthropic Reporting	Collecting for-
Pop Tabs	Deana Walters	1 cup = 185 tabs @ 1min/each tab	Ronald McDonald House
		1oz = 108tabs @ 1min/each tab	
Postage Stamps	Karen Madrid	1 Minute per stamp	Stamps for the Wounded
		Trim to 1/4 inch around stamp	
New Greeting Cards	Karen Madrid	1 minute per card	Military
Lap Robes	Chris Goldberg	Time spent making item is counted.	Spirit Lutheran Church
Hats for Homeless		Cost of Yarn is a cash donation.	
		Purchased item, amount spent is a cash donation	
Person Hygiene & <u>Femine</u> Hygiene items	Omega Alpha	Cost of Item is a cash donation	Military
Small Toiletries	<u>Kathy Riebock</u>	1 minute per item	St Vincent de Paul
Eyeglasses	Terrie Rust	1 minute per item	Lions Club
School items: Paper pens, Pencils, crayons, colored pencils, markers, sticky notes, notecards, folders, 3 ring binders, notebooks, scissors, glue, rulers Items for crafts: egg cartons, cereal boxes, toilet tubes, paper towel tubes, tissue boxes, etc.	Beta Gamma	1 minute per item or cost of items	Treasures for Teachers
Medicine Bottles (clean, labels removed)	Terrie Rust	1 minute per items	AZ Animal Welfare League 25 N 40th Street Phoenix, AZ 85034 602-273-6852
	Shari Stapleton-Smith		Pima Animal Care Center 4000 N <u>Silverbell Rd</u> Tucson, AZ 85745 520-724-7222
Manufacturer's Coupons (see write-up for tips)	Each Chapter	Amount of coupon as monetary	Military

State Director Report

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving! I wish you all the best as we approach this Christmas Holiday. I know it is stressful for some. Remember, your ESA family is here for you. It was great to see some new faces at the November Council meeting, I'm hoping to see even more in January.

I spoke at the Council Meeting about the need for members to step up to serve the Arizona Council as Appointed Offices as well as Executive Board Offices. This is critical for the future of the Arizona Council. What does someone do as a member of the Appointed Board, or Executive Board? The Appointed Board is appointed by the President, these positions are listed in the roster, as well as in the AZ Way in ESA Document on the Arizona Council website. Executive Board members are elected, there are different qualifications based on the office. These qualifications are listed in the AZ Way in ESA document as well. Here is a link to the document.

<http://azcouncilesa.com/member-center-2/>

The Advisory Board are your Past State Presidents, we are here for you! If you need assistance with your chapter or appointed board position, reach out to us! If you have an idea for a project, but you aren't quite sure where to start, reach out to us! Don't be afraid to ask more than one of us. We have a variety of experiences and perspectives.

Reach out anytime. I'm better with email and texts, but happy to talk in the evenings or on weekends.

Suzanne Godard suzannegodard@gmail.com (520) 991-5657

Barbara Appleton
Nelle Athouguia
Loralei Collier
Sherry Day
Patricia Gale
Suzanne Godard
Chris Goldberg
Kay Hicks
Karen Madrid
Sheila McClure
Liz Montgomery

Grace Mullenix
Donna Ort
Terrie Rust
Joni Slama
Cyndi Sklad
Jacqui Smith
Coralee Stanley
Shari Stapleton-Smith
Wendy Williams
Carolyn Vasko

Merry Christmas from the Foundation!

December is a month full of joy, laughter, commitments, and sometimes panic. Did I order this, did I get this done, what can I cross off the never ending list? That being said; THANK YOU in advance for renewing your Foundation dues for 2024. By doing so it keeps you eligible to vote in 2025. If you are not sure if you have paid your dues please call/text/email me. Thank you to all the chapters that have committed to supporting the Foundation!

A huge shout out to Stephanie Potts! She not only ran the Foundation raffle at the November council meeting but also gave my report. Tom had his shoulder replaced the Wednesday prior and I was not going anywhere. Thank you Stephanie for taking care of this for me!

At the meeting Stephanie showed you the two bags we are sending to the Foundation Fun Fest at IC. I would love to fill them with cash and gift cards so if you would like to donate some in any denomination, I would greatly appreciate it. Thanks!

Happy Holidays my friends!

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me. 520-559-1944, krie77@cox.net

See you at the January Council Meeting!

Kathy Riebock
Arizona Foundation Counselor





Hope for Heroes would like to thank Arizona ESA for your food contributions which afforded us the opportunity to build community partnerships and enhance Thanksgiving for 10 Veteran families. A special shout out to Omega Alpha and Omega Mu chapters who both provided last minute donations for two additional families. What a honor to be able to bless

people during this season. Again, many thanks from your Hope for Heroes Chairs.

Help from staff at the VA at the Main hospital & SE Clinic



We, the Hope for Heroes Chairs, are asking each chapter to match our donation of three gift cards to enhance families' holiday experience. Preferably Walmart, Target and Amazon gift cards.

The VA's Social Workers will select families to be recipients of these combined efforts. The American Legion will provide gifts from each child's "wish list" and it is our hope that ESA will compliment gifts with gift cards.

Thanksgiving Update:

Happy Thanksgiving

It's time to reflect on the things we are most grateful for, and on the top of this list are our employees. We are what we are because of you, so thank you for all your love, effort, and dedication!



Surgical Services



Surgical Services, VA Social Workers, ESA Hope for Heroes, SSGT Conrad VA HCC, and Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saint (Gilbert, AZ) collaborated to provide 12 food boxes to families. Thanks everyone.



Please mail gift cards by December 13, 2024 to: Paula Fisher - 13201 South Wakial Loop #1085, Phoenix, AZ 85044. Or call Paula at 480-653-4722 to arrange pick-up.

In ESA love,
Pam, Paula, and Yolanda

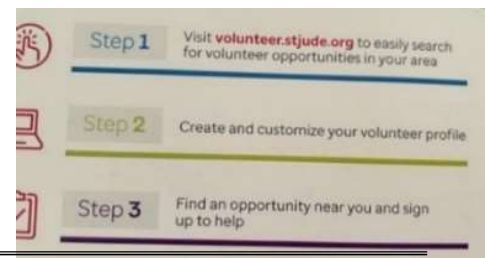
Dear Brothers and Sisters in ESA,



Happy Holidays to all of our members and your families!

If you haven't done so, please create a profile in the St. Jude Volunteer Management System (VMS). Visit: [St Jude Volunteer Management System](https://volunteer.stjude.org) This will insure you can participate in any of the events throughout the year.

The three step process shown here will help get you started. Your hours and miles can easily be tracked using VMS!



ST. JUDE CALENDAR of EVENTS

ST JUDE DREAM HOME – PHOENIX – 2025

Construction has commenced on the St. Jude Dream Home in Queen Creek, Arizona! Some specifics are listed below and updates will be announced in the months ahead, but mark your calendars for the months in early 2025. This is a huge undertaking and very lucrative FUNdraising opportunity for St. Jude and ESA Arizona. Some Volunteer Opportunities have been loaded in VMS. A ***Dream Home Newsletter*** will begin in December.

Dream Home Updates

- **Address: Ironwood Villages at North Creek (Woodside Homes)**
1199 West Sparrow Drive, Queen Creek, AZ 85140
- **Groundbreaking:** October 25th (See pictures and video)
- **Floor Signing:** January 2025
- **Media Launch/Tickets on Sale:**
February 26, 2025
- **Sneak Peek:** April 3, 2025
- *** Open House Weekends:** April 5 – May 4, 2025
- **Giveaway:** May 7th, 2025



* Major Volunteer Opportunity to Greet Guests, Process Tickets, Open/Close the Dream Home. Background check will be required.

To see a video of the groundbreaking, visit:

[3TV Groundbreaking Ceremony-St Jude Dream Home](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/977164017506618>

KMLE 107.9 Country Cares for St. Jude Kids Radiothon

December 11-12, 2024

- The Phoenix radio station will host a radiothon for two days to secure Partner in Hope monthly donors in support of St. Jude. (This event will not have volunteers.) The phone to s renew your St. Jude Partner in Hope donation will be shared in the Ocotillo Express.

Oasis of Hope – A Night in Vintage Vegas

The Vault, Scottsdale

April 5, 2025

- This event will be one to remember and in the theme of Havannah, the evening will include cocktails, dinner, gaming, silent/live auctions and dueling piano entertainers all in support of the St. Jude mission.
- Sponsorship and volunteer opportunities available.

St. Jude Heroes

Various dates—see featured races below

- St. Jude Heroes nationwide are running races in teams and individually to help raise funds for the kids of St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital®. Choose to run for a reason, and you can earn a VIP race weekend experience, free race entry and more! To search the full list of partner races and view fundraising incentive levels, please visit stjudeheroes.org.

Featured Races

St. Jude Memphis Marathon Weekend—December 7, 2024

Rock ‘n’ Roll Arizona - Half, 10k, and 5k—January 18-19, 2025

Rock ‘n’ Roll Las Vegas - Half, 10k, and 5k—February 22-23, 2025

All of these events will be loaded into VMS in the coming weeks!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR TODAY TO VOLUNTEER/ATTEND THESE GREAT EVENTS!

ST JUDE DREAM HOME – PHOENIX – 2025 Groundbreaking/Construction Update

Thank you to our Arizona ESA Members that were on hand for the groundbreaking ceremony of the first St. Jude Dream Home in Queen Creek on Friday, October 25th. The construction of the 3 bedroom, 2½ bath, two story home has begun and will be done when tickets go on sale February 26, 2025. Woodside Homes, 3TV and other trades contractors are donating their labor and materials so that 100% of the tickets sold will benefit St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.



CONCRETE FOUNDATION POURED FOR DREAM HOME



FRAMING OF DREAM HOME HAS STARTED.

ESA LOVE TO ALL, John & Karen



Easterseals- Terry Smith (Blake Foundation)/Kelly Kringen (SWHD)

Happy Holidays to you all. May you all have a blessed holiday season.

It was great seeing those that could attend the November Council meeting in Tucson, Arizona.

Thank you to everyone who brought raffle tickets and craft items to support Easterseals.

We will have a raffle basket at the January 2025 Council meeting as well.

Upcoming Volunteer and donation opportunities

- ❖ Year-Round Diaper drive of Central Arizona.
- ❖ Southwest Human Development supports this drive that benefits many families.
- ❖ October – December 2024 (Gingerbread Kids Holiday Gift Drive)

For Southwest Human Development.

Southwest Human Development's annual Gingerbread Kids Holiday Gift Drive started with only one corporate sponsor and gifts for 50-100 children in our Kinship Care and Adoption program.

Now in its ninth year, the drive has the support of 25 partners and will provide gifts for 968 children in 11 of our programs! Contact Tay Wright at (602) 545-0015 or email twright@swhd.org

You can to this link to receive more information:

<https://www.swhd.org/gingerbread-kids-holiday-giving-campaign-shopping-cart/>

Upcoming Volunteer and donation opportunities

Aviva /Easterseals Blake Foundation Foster Kids Holiday Toy Drive

Let ensure that every child in the Aviva foster system received a holiday gift.

Sign-up to volunteer at <https://bit.ly/2024holidayvolunteer>

You can also go to <https://bit.ly/Avivatoydrive> to see what items are needed for this event.

Please fee to contact Terry Smith or Kelly Kringen with any questions.

Find 10 differences.





Beta Gamma is collecting new and used sneakers

Bring to the future Arizona Council meetings

These shoes go to “GotSneakers?” a company that keep sneakers out of landfills. They give the new sneakers or used sneakers in good condition to secondhand markets and damaged footwear is recycled to reuse materials or to waste into new energy.

<https://gotsneakers.com/>

Beta Gamma gets a check after they send in the sneakers.

Wanted

- **any color, type or size**
- **for men, women and children**



**Contact any
Beta Gamma
member if you
have questions**

Date	Event & Location
January Council Meeting January 18-19, 2025 Hosted by Omega Alpha & Omega Mu	Details in Ocotillo Express
April Council Meeting Hosted by Beta Gamma April 6, 2025	Mesa, AZ Details in Ocotillo Express
Arizona Convention May 30-June 1, 2025 Arizona Council State Convention Hosted by Eta Gamma	Henderson, NV Details in Ocotillo Express
IC Convention July 13-20, 2025 Cary, North Carolina	https://www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/about/ic-council/convention

<http://www.facebook.com/ArizonaESA>

You do need to have your own Facebook page to view ours. If you are using Facebook, **Like** us so you will keep updated that is happening in ESA as well as the Arizona Council.

Here is the Arizona Council website <http://azcouncilesa.com> If you need a login and password please reach out to me.

Here are all the ways to reach me.

April Aguiñaga

april_aguinaga@hotmail.com 602-904-1530

15602 N. 59th Lane
 Glendale, AZ 85306



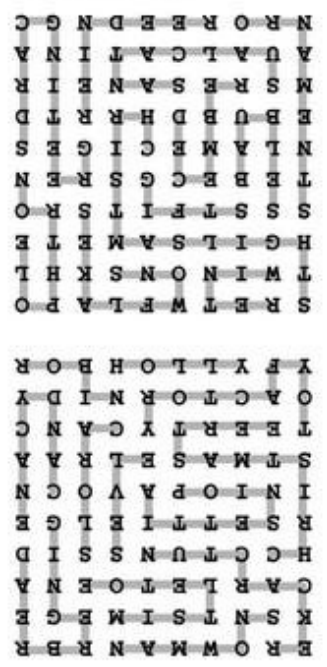
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Words go left, right, up, down, not diagonally, and can bend at a right angle.

There are no unused letters in the grid, every letter is used only once.



ANSWER:





DACHSHUND THROUGH THE SNOW

Homemade
GIFTS MADE EASY