



October 8, 2011

Dear Chapter Presidents,

Changes, changes, changes! Just like our seasons, you think you've got it all worked out and then you have to make changes. As most of you know, my President's challenge this year is Hospice. I've heard a lot of wonderful things that are happening in chapters all over the state. Thank you so much for all you are doing, not only in donations but also in educating both yourselves and your communities about this organization. You are all EXTRODINARY.

I have been following Kim's lead in having a hands-on project for the President's challenge at each board meeting. In Seneca members brought items that would benefit both patients and their families when going through some type of confined stay, be it in the hospital or at home. Many thank yous have been received by Chapters and in Hospice Organizations around the state. Following the Disaster Fund/Kansas Care and Share fashion show in Seneca, we met back at the hotel and filled 72 bags with a variety of items. After filling Phyllis Simmons' car, we divided up what was left and the remaining bags were sent home with several chapters that took them to their local Hospice. Thank you, Thank you!!!

For the fall meeting at Heartspring in Wichita November 5 & 6 we will be doing something a little different for the "Hands-On Project". Saturday evening, after we return to Heartspring upon completing our Heartspring Hunt and supper, we will have a special guest share a wonderful project with us. One of the things this group does is to share "Hospice Hugs" with children that are ill. Sadly the number of children outnumbers the "Hospice Hugs".

I had planned to mail patterns and directions to each chapter president and had told some of you about this project when I visited your districts. I had hoped we would be able to donate several of these "Hospice Hugs" to our speaker in November. These "Hugs" are made out of a light weight fleece, so they are soft and feel like a favorite pair of pajamas to cuddle up in. Brenda Love worked very hard and cut out patterns and put instructions together. The group uses a special ribbon for the cuffs of the "Hugs" and when she was putting packets together it was apparent that we didn't have enough ribbon for all of the chapters. Since it takes awhile for the ribbon to get to us, we have decided to put the packets together and you will be able to pick them up at Heartspring in November if you can help make some of the "Hugs".

If you feel you can't sew, you can still help by donating children's underwear, belts and/or socks. These can be children's sizes and for boys or girls. This request comes from one of the group whose daughter is a teacher. The daughter shared that one of her students had not wanted to go out for recess that day and she couldn't understand why not. After many questions she finally learned that the little boy did not have any underwear on and the jeans he had on were not his. They were too

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big and he did not have a belt. He was afraid he would lose his jeans while playing. The underwear, belts and socks will be given to schools in our areas that need these items. I'm sure our teachers can give us many suggestions of where to send them. If you would still like to participate and don't feel that either of these project are for you, donations are always appreciated and they will be passed on to our speaker to help with the cost of making more "Hospice Hugs".

I know we can help this group with their objective "to spread love, hope, joy and hugs" to many children. Bring your items or donations to Heartspring on Saturday, November 5. Please keep them separate from the Heartspring Shower items. You may give the items to Brenda Love or Jill Mattingly.

Chapter Presidents and District Chairs are scheduled to meet Saturday morning from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. with Phyllis Simmons and myself at the Heartspring Conference Center. The Board Letter will follow shortly with a more detailed schedule. Please be watching your mail for it.

Remember to keep me and the Committee Chairs notified of the activities that you have happening in your chapter – Hospice Involvement, Rushing Activities, Hope for Heroes Recognitions, Block Parties, etc. If you can't be at the November meeting in Wichita, be sure to ask someone to attend for you. Load the car with your sisters and bring someone that has never been to a State Council Meeting. Sondra Messenger and the Social committee have a "Season of Fun" activity planned from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. for those that don't have meetings or commitments at that time. What a great way to get acquainted with your sisters.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing you all at Heartspring in November.

Seasons of ESA Love,

Marsha Barnes
2011-2012 ESA Kansas State Council President
barnes@kanokla.net
620-845-4004

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