



General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts

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Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO) Society 2016-2018

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As Clubwomen we focus much of our time on promoting the education of others. **Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO)** is an avenue for us as individuals or as a group to further our knowledge and education. Epsilon Sigma Omicron is an honorary educational society open to all per-capita dues paying GFWC members. ESO provides clubwomen with a structured reading program that is educational and stimulates a desire for self-improvement.

Through ESO, clubwomen are given direction in planned reading for self-enrichment and personal growth. Many GFWC clubwomen have profited from this unique self-improvement program, seen as vital by the members it directly benefits. ESO provides clubwomen with a structured reading program that is educational and stimulates a desire for self-improvement. ESO goals include:

- Encouraging clubwomen's pursuit of higher education
- Creating an additional means to unite women in volunteerism
- Developing a support network for women returning to school
- Improving current and develop new study skills
- Stimulating systematic home reading and study with minimal supervision
- Encouraging the establishment of home libraries and greater use of public libraries
- Encouraging the formation of reading/study/discussion groups

Members can participate in ESO as part of a reading group or on their own. The program provides membership, awards and certificates, pins, reading lists, and a framework in which to pursue continued self-improvement through reading. Many clubs combine club programming with ESO related activities, such as reading awareness and book promotion.

Resources:

Use available **ESO materials** on the GFWC website, for more information: www.gfwc.org/what-we-do/community-service-programs/epsilon-sigma-omicron.

Epsilon Sigma Omicron Handbook Guide for GFWC's Reading Groups: This handbook is best used by members and state chairmen of newly-established state ESO chapters or state chapters that do not have their own state guidelines, but is also helpful to all ESO members and chapters: http://www.gfwc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/ESO-Handbook-FINAL_2016_2.pdf?0a0236&blm_aid=76879

ESO Book lists: The most current list is available: <http://www.gfwc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/2012-2014-ESO-Reading-List-BW.pdf?0a0236>

Happy Reading!