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150 YEARS OF THE P.E.O. SISTERHOOD
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Please continue to share with me inspirational stories of your local chapter “strengthening the heart of P.E.O.” at sbaker@peodsm.org.

“All I want is peace, love, understanding and a chocolate bar bigger than my head.” Those of you who know me, must know my passion for chocolate. This verse graces a little plaque given to me as a gift that sits on my kitchen window sill. Recently, I looked at it and pondered, “would I give up the chocolate bar for everything else on this list?” Absolutely, without hesitation, I would settle in a heartbeat for “peace, love and understanding.” Wouldn’t you?

Conflict is difficult and quite honestly, mostly unexpected in P.E.O. It is easy to be critical of others in today’s world, but we are constantly reminded in our Objects & Aims to have “a careful consideration of feeling when speaking, and a determination to do all we can at all times and under all circumstances to express a loving concern for each sister.” This is not always an easy assignment, but it is by this premise that P.E.O. has existed peacefully for nearly 150 years!

Nominating committees have met and new officers have graciously accepted the responsibilities set out for them for the benefit of P.E.O. We thank you for accepting these duties and trust that you will learn and enjoy your service to the Sisterhood. Special thanks for all those who have just completed their official duties and to those who are yet to be called upon to serve, it is our hope that you will accept the challenge when you are asked to serve your local, state or International chapter. We seek competent, dedicated leaders at all levels of our organization and YOU are being carefully considered. Learn all you can about P.E.O. by reading the entire issue of The P.E.O. Record; be inspired by our recipient stories, member accomplishments and visit our website regularly to keep up with all the good that is being accomplished by our Sisterhood.

I challenged each local chapter to share with me how your chapter is “strengthening the heart of P.E.O.” Published in the California newsletter, as written by president Ann Arabian, was a touching story about the “gift of P.E.O.” from Chapter B, Escondido. This is a true example of how they have “strengthened the heart.”

**Strengthening the Heart of P.E.O.—“Give the Gift”**

“Chapter B’s beloved 91-year-old member, Muriel, dearly wished to give the gift of sisterhood to her granddaughter, Kayla. Initiation was planned at Muriel’s residence since she was not strong enough to travel. When Muriel’s health began to fail rapidly, the chapter president quickly moved the special initiation up, giving her officers and sisters only two days’ notice.

“On that special morning, 17 chapter sisters gathered in Muriel’s room to witness the initiation of Kayla at her grandmother’s bedside. Muriel was alert, happy, peaceful, and the family was pleased that the ceremony went off without a hitch. When Kayla and her sister, Kimberly, attended Chapter B’s regular meeting two days later, the president gave them a photo taken with their grandmother. There was one for Muriel, too, so they delivered it to her that afternoon and had a nice visit. By the following day, Muriel was unresponsive. She entered Chapter Eternal peacefully soon after.

“The family was deeply appreciative of the special meeting for Kayla’s initiation and felt strongly that it was just how it was meant to be. ‘Blessed’ was the heartfelt emotion felt by all. In the chapter president’s words, ‘My notice of the special initiation went out to our chapter stating that we had a determination to do all we can, at all times and under all circumstances, to express a loving concern for each sister.’ Truer words were never spoken.

“The story of this luminous ‘gift of P.E.O’ has lessons for us all. Thank you, sisters of Chapter B, for reminding us anew that the greatest of our virtues is...love.”

In this way we continue to “Strengthen the Heart of P.E.O.”

**With gratitude and grace... LEAD Forward**

Sue Baker  
President, International Chapter
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Submission of material to The P.E.O. Record is your consent to our right to edit and publish it, either all or in part, in any P.E.O. print or digital communication medium. The content matter may or may not reflect the opinions of the Sisterhood. Complete submission guidelines appear on the “Members Only” section of P.E.O.’s official website, peointernational.org. The P.E.O. Record welcomes members’ submissions to the address on the inside front cover.
P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) is passionate about its mission—Promoting educational opportunities for women.

Our Sisterhood proudly makes a difference in women’s lives with six philanthropies that include Cottey College, an independent, liberal arts and sciences college for women, and five programs that provide higher educational assistance: P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund, P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship Fund, P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education, P.E.O. Scholar Awards and P.E.O. STAR Scholarship. P.E.O. is headquartered in Des Moines, Iowa.

P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund
Educational Loan Fund (ELF) is a revolving loan fund established in 1907 to lend money to qualified women students to assist them in securing a higher education.

P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship
P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship (IPS) Fund was established in 1949 to provide scholarships for international women students to pursue graduate study in the United States and Canada.

P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education
P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education (PCE) was established in 1973 to provide need-based grants to women in the United States and Canada whose education has been interrupted and who find it necessary to return to school to support themselves and/or their families.

P.E.O. Scholar Awards
P.E.O. Scholar Awards (PSA) was established in 1991 to provide substantial merit-based awards for women of the United States and Canada who are pursuing a doctoral level degree at an accredited college or university.

P.E.O. STAR Scholarship
The P.E.O. STAR Scholarship was established in 2009 to provide scholarships for exceptional high school senior women to attend an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the United States or Canada in the next academic year.

Cottey College
Cottey College is an independent, liberal arts and sciences college for women. Located in Nevada, Missouri, it has been owned and supported by the P.E.O. Sisterhood since 1927.

Individual donors may make tax-deductible gifts to the above mentioned projects or through the P.E.O. Foundation. Checks should be made payable to the project or the P.E.O. Foundation and sent directly to the P.E.O. Executive Office. Donations may also be made online through the website peointernational.org. Look for the “Giving Opportunities” link on the home page.

All P.E.O. chapters are classified by the United States Internal Revenue Service as exempt from Federal income tax, but they are not Section 501(c)(3) charities. Consequently, contributions to P.E.O. chapters are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal income tax purposes.

P.E.O. is a philanthropic organization where women celebrate the advancement of women; educate women through scholarships, grants, awards, loans and stewardship of Cottey College; and motivate women to achieve their highest aspirations.

For more information visit the website www.peointernational.org. A reprint of this page is available on the members’ website under P.E.O. Projects.
LETTERS

P.E.O. and BIL Guardian Angels Help Injured Motorist

It was a beautiful Sunday morning in July 2017 as I left my home in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, to drive to Omaha for a fun night with friends before proceeding to Iowa. I was near Lincoln, Nebraska, when I pulled over at a rest stop.

As I walked to the building, I lost my balance and fell flat on my front, mainly on my knees. The pain was excruciating. A woman stopped to ask if I needed help. She then got her husband and the two of them helped me return to my car.

After deciding that I could not drive, my new friends offered to take me to their home in Lincoln. She drove my car and her husband followed. The woman and I started chatting; I found out her name is Ellen Loughran and that she is a P.E.O. in Chapter IY in Lincoln.

After a brief rest at their home, my new friends helped me into my car. I drove on to Omaha and the next morning I drove on to Iowa as planned.

I saw a doctor the next week—I had several fractures in my left knee that required surgery.

My new friend Ellen called several times to see how I was doing. The upside of this adventure is I have made a wonderful new friend and P.E.O. sister. We call, write and keep in touch. Ellen says she is sorry we had to meet like we did but otherwise would never have met. She and her husband are indeed my guardian angels and are in my daily thoughts and prayers.

— Jan Shetler, FC
Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Increasing Cultural Literacy

Twelve sisters and BILs from Chapter HX in Westminster, Colorado, visited the Islam Center in Golden, Colorado. The Islam Center in Golden offers open house presentations to help those unfamiliar with the Muslim faith gain knowledge of the faith. The 2-1/2-hour session included prayers, background of Mohammed and the Koran as well as an opportunity to ask questions. Islam Centers all over the country are encouraging informative sessions like these to help people better understand the values and practices of Muslims. An imam (member who is considered the most learned member of the congregation) led the discussion. The formation of the Islamic Center in Golden came about because of the many students from the Muslim tradition who came to study at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden. The Center has continued to grow and has recently moved into a new facility. Its relationship to the Golden community has been positive.

The Muslim population in the U.S. is about three million—worldwide it is roughly two billion. Our perceptions of the Muslim faith are often not well informed and it behooves all of us to take advantage of opportunities like this presentation at the Islamic Center to get to know the Muslim next door.

— Afton Dancey, HX
Westminster, Colorado

Lost Emblem Connects P.E.O.s with Grant Recipient

After our September 2017 reciprocity meeting, some of the Chapter JH, Vancouver, Washington, sisters enjoyed some shopping in nearby Hood River, Oregon, before returning to Vancouver. With some alarm, I discovered that my P.E.O. pin was lost!

The group quickly backtracked to the last store, and the clerks joined the search for the missing star. Suddenly one of the clerks, Miranda Dezurick, exclaimed, “Here it is!” Miranda’s next words were, “P.E.O., you have helped me so much!” She told us she had received a P.E.O grant that is helping her to complete her education to become a nurse. Miranda continued to tell us how very much her P.E.O. grant had meant to her and how it had, in many ways, changed her life.

We were so proud to think we are part of this wonderful organization whose purpose is to help young women just like her achieve their educational goals; what a fantastic way to celebrate our Sisterhood!

— Donna McIntosh, JH
Vancouver, Washington

Dear Sister Where Are You Driving Now?

On approximately May 17-18, 2017, as my husband and I were headed north through New York, my husband spotted a P.E.O. license plate frame on the car ahead of us. You, sister, were driving a red/burgundy minivan with Georgia plates. You were heading north on the New York thruway and then on to 84 east. We spotted you several times as we worked our way east through heavy traffic. Each sighting of the plate brought a smile to our faces and warmth to my heart to know that a sister was close by.

We have not invested in the plate frame yet but will, with the hope it will give others a smile as we travel. We will be the green Subaru!

— Mary Becker, W
Beaufort, South Carolina

From the left: Jean Haas, Miranda Dezurick, Donna McIntosh, Sally Garrigues. Photo by Gilda Powell.
THE REALITY OF Philanthropic Vitality
by Cathy Moss, Organizer, International Chapter

The P.E.O. mission of Women Helping Women Reach for the Stars has never been brighter; this is the reality of our vitality.

P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund—This venerable project celebrated 110 years in style by granting the largest number of loans ever given, 977, last year; loan amounts averaged over one million dollars each month! The loan default rate was an amazing .03 percent.

Cottey College—For Women, By Women, About Women. “Our College” was given to the P.E.O. Sisterhood in 1927. Cottey College is rated #7 by US News and World Report in the 2018 Best Regional Midwest Colleges, which included schools from 11 Midwestern states.

P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship Fund—IPS will turn 70 this biennium. For almost seven decades this project has “Fostered Peace through Education.” In 1949, women from two countries were awarded IPS scholarships; last year women from 70 countries received IPS scholarships. 654 local chapters were designated as a “Partner in Peace” chapter by giving a special gift of $500 to IPS during the last year.

P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education—With a 3.5 million dollar budget this fiscal year, the largest in its 45–year history, PCE has been able to increase the average grant amount to over $2,000 per applicant and award the full maximum grant of $3,000 to over 23 percent of all recipients during the first quarter of the biennium.

P.E.O. Scholar Awards—Established in 1991, the first class of scholars included 30 students who were each awarded $5,000. In 2018, 100 women, who are pursing doctoral–level degrees, will be selected to receive the prestigious P.E.O. Scholar Awards $15,000 scholarship. More than 700 local chapters were designated as PSA Laureate Chapters last year.

P.E.O. STAR Scholarship—Since the pilot program in 2009, the STAR Scholarship has grown from 140 recipients to 540 last year. We are delighted to share that after just eight years, STAR has become self–sustaining; all gifts given to the project will go directly to a deserving student.

Your gifts to the P.E.O. projects have made Philanthropic Vitality a reality. Thank you, P.E.O.s everywhere. Please continue to support each of our outstanding P.E.O. projects.
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Tell everyone in your family—spouses, daughters, sons, brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, cousins (everyone!) about the mission of the P.E.O. Sisterhood and how important the organization is to you.

Talking to your family about P.E.O. helps spread the message of our mission and broadens the reach of our philanthropies.
Inside “We Who Are Sisters,” the P.E.O. Pictorial History Book

The Sesquicentennial Book Committee is excited to share a small sampling of what you will find within the new P.E.O. pictorial history “We Who Are Sisters,” which is being published as part of P.E.O.’s sesquicentennial celebration.

Throughout our time-honored past, P.E.O. has chronicled the people, places and events that have conveyed the story of the organization’s growth. This illustrated edition will bring the history of our Sisterhood up to date with details and stories of our founding to the present day.

On the following pages, get a sneak preview of the types of things you will find in the new book. Discover the stories behind these fascinating photos—and many more—when you purchase the new pictorial history book, “We Who Are Sisters”!

“We Who Are Sisters” cover designed by Susan S. Johnston, M, Dover, Delaware. Susan’s watercolors have been accepted in regional and national shows and have won numerous awards. She and her husband, Dr. William N. Johnston, are former residents of Mount Pleasant, Iowa, where he served as president of Iowa Wesleyan from 2002-2008.

Book presales at a discounted price are available now; the discount opportunity will end July 31, 2018. See page 14 for information about how to order the book. “We Who Are Sisters” will begin shipping January 2019.
Creation of the Book

The Sesquicentennial Book Committee was formed in 2015. Since then, they have worked diligently to research and compile the histories presented in the book, including P.E.O. projects’ beginnings; state, provincial and district histories; fascinating facts about our Founders and other sisters integral in the growth and expansion of the Sisterhood; the story behind unique artifacts from the P.E.O. archives and much more!

The committee spent countless hours poring over photos and histories to cultivate the material that appears in the book. Their dedication to this enormous project is evident on every page and “We Who Are Sisters” will take its place in the pantheon of P.E.O. histories, along with “Out of the Heart.”

Members of the Sesquicentennial Book Committee from the left: Susan Reese Sellers, Past President, International Chapter, ES, Houston, Texas; Anne Pettygrove, former CEO of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, I, Gainesville, Florida; Ruth Glancy, Past President, Alberta–Saskatchewan Provincial Chapter, Q, Edmonton, Alberta; Fran Becque, KL, Carbondale, Illinois.
Inside
“We Who Are Sisters,” the P.E.O. pictorial history book, you will find more than 300 photos that illustrate the history of our Sisterhood’s growth and evolution. The photos presented on these pages are only a small selection of what you will find in the new book. Want to know more about the artifacts pictured here or learn the stories about the women in these photos?

Preorder your book today!

Book presales at a discounted price are available now; the discount opportunity will end July 31, 2018. See page 14 for information about how to order the book. “We Who Are Sisters” will begin shipping January 2019.
## Ordering “We Who Are Sisters”

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<td><strong>Today!</strong> Although the book will not be shipped until January 2019, presales have begun, so reserve your copy now. <strong>Orders before July 31, 2018 receive a 20% discount.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Are there limited quantities?</strong></td>
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Consider placing a chapter order to save on shipping costs and for those who might not be comfortable shopping online. Also consider ordering this limited-edition commemorative book for your local chapter supplies. You can order up to 20 books at once.
P.E.O.s—we know you’re worldly and well-traveled!

We love hearing about P.E.O.s who have met on cruises, tours and vacations—in the United States, Canada and abroad. Next time you hit the road, climb aboard that cruise ship or hop on a jet, pack the latest copy of The P.E.O. Record and snap a photo of yourself holding it up at your destination. Send us your pictures and you may be featured in The P.E.O. Record or on our Facebook page or Instagram feed.

Send photos to editor@peodsm.org or mediamanager@peodsm.org.

Alexis Shanes, a 2014 P.E.O. STAR scholarship recipient and now member of Chapter EA, Wichita Falls, Texas, took her P.E.O. Record with her to Jerusalem. Thanks to Sheila Meador, EA, Wichita Falls, Texas, for sharing the photo with us!
Two years ago, a long-time and long-distance friend called me out of the blue. We caught up on each other’s lives. Then she said, “I’d like to recommend you for membership to a women’s organization I’m in. It’s P.E.O.”

“What is P.E.O.?” I asked. Her answer seemed very cryptic: “Oh, you’ll see. You’ll like them, and you’ll be a great P.E.O.”

Within a few weeks, I received invitations to socialize with local P.E.O.s. in different chapters. Even for an extrovert like me, walking into a room of strangers I didn’t know much about was a bit stressful. But the stress melted away immediately because of their caring and warmth.

Later, when I became a P.E.O., I learned the secret of this sisterhood and their noble mission—the secret of P.E.O.

P.E.O. has always been referred to as “P.E.O.” – with no definition of its letters and always using the periods. The secret organization was only known to its members. But in 2005, P.E.O. broke the silence with its initiative: It’s Okay to Talk about P.E.O. Then in 2008, the Sisterhood revealed that it is a “Philanthropic Educational Organization.” Coincidentally around that time, the TV game show Jeopardy revealed the same thing!

What began as a secret society of young women at an Iowa college nearly 150 years ago is now a sisterhood a quarter of a million strong. The first chapter came to Virginia in 1927, and now in Hampton Roads alone, there are 18 chapters. Three thousand dedicated Virginia women fulfill the mission of making higher education possible for other women. Virginia P.E.O. is led by Sherry Arendt of Virginia Beach. Let’s meet Sherry and a few other local P.E.O. sisters who are helping other women reach for the stars.
Catch the Waves

Virginia State Chapter President Sherry Arendt spent the last four years on the Virginia state board in training for this year. Actually, her entire 15 years of experience as a P.E.O. member have helped prepare her for this role.

Originally from Iowa, she made her way to Virginia Beach via her husband’s naval career. The area won her over. She has the sea in her veins—and in her back yard.

“I look out my condo window at the beach, and I am amazed at how much it reminds me of P.E.O.—a constant, yet ever-changing presence in my life,” said Sherry in her president’s message. Her theme for this year is: Catch the Waves to Better Futures.

“Every day at the beach is different,” she observed. “Some days the waves are calm and gently rolling. Other days the waves are strong and full of energy. But all of them together make for a very powerful force, just as together in P.E.O., we are a powerful force. We even own a college!”

Since 1927, P.E.O. has owned and operated Cottey College in Missouri. Cottey is part of the mission of the organization: funding higher education for women. Cottey and other programs—called Projects—provide hundreds of millions of dollars in scholarships, loans and grants.

“I know from personal experience how hard it is to finance going to school,” Sherry said. “If only P.E.O. had been more public in their mission at that time, I might have been able to get help from my hometown chapter, which I did not know existed.”

P.E.O.’s philanthropic mission convinced Sherry to become a P.E.O. She was recommended for membership by a childhood friend.

Sherry said she treasures what P.E.O. offers—an instant support system that stems from a common bond promising acceptance and sisterhood. “P.E.O.s are committed and have a loving concern for each other,” she said. “If your college kid is in the hospital at a school, call a P.E.O. and ask her to visit. A P.E.O. will do it!”

Positive Vibes

Kat Padua Adkins of Norfolk received a P.E.O. grant to finish her master’s degree. She didn’t know much about P.E.O. at the time. It was the mother of her then boyfriend/husband—a P.E.O.—who suggested she apply. She got her Masters of Fine Arts degree in computer art and launched a successful career as a visual artist and animator.

Then her husband’s job brought them to Norfolk, and Kat became a P.E.O. “It was my mother-in-law’s Williamsburg chapter became too far to go on a work night. She loved her Williamsburg sisters, but began to look for a Southside group. “I felt a certain connection immediately,” she said about her new Southside chapter.

Now she has more time for P.E.O. and her job at the Governors School for the Arts (GSA) in Norfolk. She stresses the importance of teaching art and keeping up with technology, especially for children, because technology moves so quickly. “Being ready to change with technology opens up what you can do,” said Kat.

She is passionate about helping others. “It’s the mentorship that I really enjoy,” she said about helping the GSA students. “It’s so rewarding. Each student I’ve mentored has gotten into the program of their choice.”

She also mentors in P.E.O. Kat helps her chapter select candidates for the P.E.O. Projects. She helps further by being a mentor for the women whether or not they receive assistance. “All the candidates are amazing,” she said. Her chapter’s candidate was recently selected for a scholarship.

Kat’s passion for helping people shows in everything she does. Her motto is “Never give anyone a reason to say no to you.” Her website is full of positive vibes and tells of her focus on creating high quality entertainment for children.

And she has taken on a new personal project—writing a children’s book—while she’s nesting in preparation for her and her husband’s first child.

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Sherry Arendt, President, Virginia State Chapter, is inspired and motivated by P.E.O.’s philanthropic mission.

Kat Padua Adkins of Norfolk, Virginia, received a P.E.O. grant and later became a member of the Sisterhood.
Support System

Given its prior secrecy, it’s not surprising that P.E.O. membership can run in families. When Jennifer Culver of Norfolk became a military spouse, her mother told her she needed to be a P.E.O.

“I remember them (P.E.O.s) as being this warm group of women,” she recalled about her childhood and her mother’s chapter. “My dad and I stayed upstairs when my mom would have a meeting. I knew about getting into a meeting only if you were a P.E.O.”

When her Navy husband was sent to Diego Garcia for a year unaccompanied, Jennifer decided that she and her three-month-old baby would spend time with her parents in North Carolina. Living far from a Navy community, Jennifer missed the Navy support system, but P.E.O. filled in perfectly.

Right about the time Jennifer moved in with her folks, her mother’s P.E.O. chapter decided it had gotten too big and would branch off a new chapter. “It was super exciting,” she said about being a new P.E.O. in a new chapter. “We meet in people’s homes, and when a chapter gets too big, you can’t meet in someone’s living room anymore.” She treasures meeting in sisters’ homes rather than meeting rooms. “You get that home-y love feeling.” It was just what Jennifer needed. “I had my mom and my P.E.O. sisters for my new-mom support.”

Through the years, Jennifer’s military moves have sent her to many different locations. But finding the right chapter isn’t hard to do, she said. When she got to Norfolk, she found the right fit at the very first chapter she visited.

“When you walk in somewhere and say you’re a P.E.O., it’s instant family,” she said. “They will drop everything for you, even welcome you into their home if you need a place to stay.”

That’s P.E.O. according to Jennifer. “With P.E.O., I have a support system like no other.”

Friendship & Sisterhood

Sara Walters of Virginia Beach grew up in a military family and also served. After visiting the Naval Academy when she was young, she knew it was for her.

She graduated in 2003, and four weeks after graduation, she was on a ship. Being a surface warfare officer was a good career choice for her, but it wasn’t her passion. “I knew I wanted to be a nurse even before I graduated,” Sara explained. So, she served her commitment, entered the reserves, and started her nursing degree.

A while later, her husband decided it was time to leave the Navy and pursue his master’s degree. So, they settled down and began life as civilians.

The timing was right to think about following in her mother’s footsteps as a P.E.O. But it wasn’t her mom that recommended her for membership; it was her mother’s friend. Sara joined P.E.O. and started making her own great memories.

Then her husband signed up for the Naval reserves. It didn’t take long for him to be called up to active duty and sent to Hampton Roads. The friend that recommended her for membership started calling P.E.O. chapters in Norfolk to tell them that Sara was moving to their area. So, finding a new chapter to join was easy.

Although being back in the military offers help and support like spouses’ groups and more, Sara said she devotes her time to P.E.O. “It’s nice to have something that’s all yours,” she said of the sisterhood, “and not something centered on your husband’s job.”

A member of P.E.O. for barely two years, Sara said the more she learns about P.E.O., the more impressed she is with the organization. “It’s all about friendship and the betterment of society,” she said.

“Women that I already hold in great esteem have turned out to be P.E.O.s,” said Sara. “I was talking to this dear friend of mine who is like a mother to me, and I told her about this organization I joined. You know what she said? She is a P.E.O.!”

Now that you know more about P.E.O., you might start noticing their letters and daisy stickers in car windows or on tote bags. At your high school’s senior awards ceremony, P.E.O.s might present a scholarship. The sisterhood is everywhere.

Matter of fact, so many of my friends have turned out to be P.E.O.s that my husband thinks it might be a conspiracy. His actual words were, “I think P.E.O.s run the world.”

Hmmm. Well? There are still a few things about P.E.O. that are secret. Wink, wink!
At the 2017 Convention of International Chapter in Charlotte, North Carolina, the Sesquicentennial Celebration Committee was pleased to unveil several commemorative jewelry pieces to be sold as part of P.E.O.’s 150th anniversary celebration.

During P.E.O.’s 100th anniversary in 1969, a centennial charm was created and sold. The Sisterhood is pleased to continue this tradition with the new sesquicentennial celebration jewelry.

Now available for purchase, these pieces make a great gift for a special sister or an attractive addition to your own jewelry collection as one of many ways to celebrate this significant milestone.

The committee thoughtfully worked with P.E.O. sisters and jewelry company Herff Jones to design the pieces. To start, the committee contacted several local chapters and used an online survey to determine favorite metal options. They also compared favorite pieces of their own jewelry to narrow down details they liked and thought would be universally appealing to members of the Sisterhood.

Sesquicentennial Celebration Committee member Ann Conway said, “A great deal of tweaking went on after the committee saw the sample designs from Herff Jones...we went forward incorporating favorite elements from designs they provided and fine-tuned them with some of our own ideas. The final design evolved slowly as the committee took our time and worked together closely to develop the beautiful pieces available. With the wide range of price options and metal choices, sisters will be able to find that perfect piece that speaks to her.”

These limited-edition sesquicentennial celebration pieces are being sold by Herff Jones, the official jeweler of P.E.O. Visit www.peo150.org for more details, including how to order.
See the U.S.A. and Canada the P.E.O. B&B Way

by Brenda Rush, Al, Amarillo, Texas

I
f there was ever a person who would not want to eat a meal with a stranger, much less stay in their home overnight, it would be my husband, Charlie. Seven years ago, when our niece was getting married in Austin, Texas, we began looking for accommodations. There were several major sporting events the same weekend, so availability of rooms was low and hotel prices were sky high. As a relatively new member of P.E.O., I had read about the bed and breakfast program and mentioned it as a possibility. Charlie surprised me when he agreed to give it a try “one time.”

Today, that “one time” has turned into multiple times each year. We have stayed in homes from Texas to Canada and from Florida to the Hawaiian Islands, saving money and making friends along the way. The B&Bs have shared conversation, information and in one case, a long-term gardening project. By staying in touch with our hosts, we have learned about ongoing fundraising, new program ideas and we have even been visited by a B&B host couple. It was fun to show them our town and return their hospitality.

Charlie and I are both sold on this program and enjoy the surprises that come with the experiences. Once we realized we were staying with the sister of my work colleague. Other times, we learned about custom bread baking, stained-glass kaleidoscopes and wooden bowl turning. In Vancouver, Canada, we were given a tour of one of the facilities built for the 2010 Winter Olympics. When we traveled to attend my aunt’s funeral, my P.E.O. sister found the newspaper obituary and put it on our bed prior to our arrival.

Most recently, we enjoyed a private outdoor shower where tropical Hawaiian flowers grew and the sound of crashing ocean waves could be heard.

Since our first B&B experience, we have been amazed at how P.E.O. sisters enhance our vacation travels. When we arrive, our common bond in P.E.O. makes us feel like long-time friends meeting in person for the first time. We have lots to talk about and these local residents are invested in the quality of our visit. We have received tips, coupons and suggestions about entertainment, food and directions, as well as places to avoid, and when to ignore Google Maps. Since the host donates the room and breakfast, the money from guests goes directly to P.E.O. Any time we plan a trip now, I automatically go to the P.E.O. website to find a P.E.O. B&B. We like that better than calling an 800 number to book a hotel.

This unique opportunity is reserved for P.E.O. members. Are you taking advantage of your membership benefits? Here are three simple steps to get started:

Go to the P.E.O. International website (peointernational.org) and log in as a member with the user name and password provided by your chapter officer. The B&B listings are divided first by states and then by towns.

Contact the host for a booking. Each B&B listing contains the host’s contact information. If communicating via email it is helpful to provide your dates, arrival/departure times, information about yourself and the reason for your trip in writing. Give the host details you would want to know about someone who is asking to stay overnight in your guest room and eat breakfast at your table.

If a booking is made, stay in touch with your host, share cell numbers and clearly communicate as the travel day approaches. If a booking isn’t possible, some hosts may offer to coordinate a stay with another sister who also participates in the program. In many cases, there are multiple B&B chapters hosting within the same city, so you will have plenty of options.

The next time you travel, consider seeing the U.S.A. and Canada the P.E.O. B&B way. We will all be glad you did!
The P.E.O. Bed & Breakfast program began in 1981 with a single listing; now there are almost 700 participating chapters across the United States and Canada. This unique program has not only generated a considerable amount of money for our P.E.O. projects, but it has created many lasting friendships.

There are two ways for P.E.O. sisters to enjoy the P.E.O. Bed & Breakfast program: stay at one as a guest, or open your home to host sisters. Either way, you help finance the P.E.O. projects that help women around the world reach for the stars.

The Bed & Breakfast listing is available online, allowing for the most up-to-date and accurate listings, including new locations. The online listing also protects the privacy of P.E.O. B&B hostesses as it is only accessible by current P.E.O.s. The listing can be found at https://members.peointernational.org/bedandbreakfast. Our online listing allows you to view our B&B locations and you can now print either one specific location, or the entire list to have available at your fingertips!

If you have questions about the P.E.O. Bed & Breakfast program contact us at commassist@peodsm.org.
Who are today’s heroines? There are probably many living quietly among us, doing amazing things but never being recognized for their efforts. Happily, one P.E.O. heroine recently had her “day in the sun.” Yahne Miorini, a member of Chapter AO in Vienna, Virginia, was awarded a prestigious award by the Government of France. This award (including an impressive looking medal) is the Chevalier of the National Order of Merit. Second only to France’s Legion of Honor award, it symbolizes France’s gratitude to those who serve her and her people. As French Premier Conseillier Patrick Lauchaussee stated in his speech at Yahne’s presentation ceremony, “loyalty, honor, passion, selflessness—those four words are often overused, but for me they remain the founding values of this order and aptly reflect Yahne Miorini’s commitment and activities.”

Yahne brings those same values, plus her enthusiastic spirit, talent and sense of caring to her chapter and P.E.O. sisters. She was initially introduced to P.E.O. by Anne Hurley, a member of Chapter AO in Vienna, Virginia, and Yahne’s voice teacher. Anne had known Yahne for several years and was impressed with her Gallic charm, dedication and zest for life. Yahne joined the chapter in September of 2010, and has ably served as chapter treasurer, as well as a valuable member of the program committee. With her wide-ranging interests and contacts, she’s been a great resource for providing stimulating and enjoyable speakers and programs. A gracious hostess, she regularly opens her home for chapter meetings or social events.

Yahne was born in the Paris area, shortly after her parents had returned from Algeria. She was a bright child and student, who quickly displayed a passion for law. She successfully completed her studies to become a “Notaire”—a French legal specialist who draws up authenticated contracts on behalf of her clients. However, her desire to learn about and explore the wider world led her to the University of Kent/Canterbury England. Here, though she faced significant challenges with the English language (including legal terminology), she earned her hard-won diploma. Yahne’s quest to expand her knowledge led her to many parts of the globe—backpacking in the desert, scuba diving on the Great Coral Reef, touring and visiting friends (and her future husband, David Edelman) in Washington, D.C.

Once in Washington, Yahne enrolled at George Washington University to continue her legal studies. She received her degree and was admitted to the bar in Virginia, the District of Columbia and New York. Because of her unique credentials, she served as a legal adviser for a number of area law firms, and finally established her own firm. Her practice on elder law includes guardianship, conservatorship and long-term care planning. She is a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and Vice President of its Virginia chapter.

Because of her expertise, she regularly consults with the Consulate-General of France in Washington, D.C., working pro bono to help compatriots face complex legal situations. In addition, she has dedicated herself to a number of French associations, volunteering and sharing her legal expertise and professional networks. Through her efforts, these groups partner with the Consulate in implementing outreach initiatives to help their most needy compatriots.

Yahne and her family currently live in suburban Washington, D.C., and are the proud parents of two college-age young adults, Antoine and Annabelle. They still like to travel, and visit France and other interesting places as often as possible. When asked what she likes about P.E.O., she responds that she values the focus on learning, the mission of helping women grow and achieve their goals, and the opportunities for building friendships with sisters (and their BILs) in both meeting and social settings.
When you are part of a group that works well together it is a joy, but being part of a crew that doesn’t click can be very frustrating, particularly when you aren’t sure how to build a strong team.

My family loves games, and a favorite involves building a tall tower with wooden blocks, then slowly each player removes one of the blocks while trying to keep the tower intact. The same principle is true of a team; each member brings unique strengths and experiences. Put those together and you have a force to be reckoned with; pull one out and the team struggles.

As chapters begin their new P.E.O. year, many of us will be working on committees. Let’s look at teams that are highly successful and what makes them so:

1. **The team members have worked hard to build strong relationships.** Developing a personal relationship means understanding an individual and what is important to them. When you know what is dear and meaningful to a person, you begin to learn how they make decisions. When you are familiar with their background, you know their skills and can tap into that talent to strengthen the team.

   While serving on the board of a nonprofit I had an experience that highlighted the importance of building relationships. A new board member joined and gave us a copy of her resume, her leadership style assessment and even a reference letter. It was interesting to learn so much about her, but we didn’t take the time to share information about ourselves. As the year went on, there was a sense that our new board member was struggling and wasn’t utilizing the talents of the more senior members of the team. Inadvertently we had set her up to fail.

   Get to know your team members **FIRST**. What are the work styles of each member? What is important to each member personally? Plan a simple icebreaker game that will get the conversation flowing at the beginning of each meeting. To find a fun icebreaker go to [peoleadership.org](http://peoleadership.org) – General Leadership Resources.

2. **The team members have a clear understanding of the goals.** Write your goals as a team so that each member has a voice and will then take ownership of the outcomes. Remember to cascade the goals down from International to your own chapter, so that all members have a clear vision of how to achieve P.E.O.’s mission. Goals should be specific and measurable so you can track and report your progress. Check out a helpful resource at [peoleadership.org](http://peoleadership.org) under Productivity: “Achieve your Goals.”

3. **New team members are provided with an onboarding plan as well as a mentor.** Think about the best way to bring new members up to speed quickly, so they feel a part of the team and are ready to participate. Having a plan that can be used year after year will turn your committee into a well-oiled machine.

   Sherry Arendt, President, Virginia State Chapter told us, “our state has used the ‘Mentoring at the S/P/D level’ LDI training video as a guide for state officers to mentor two new members of the Board. These have been valuable tools to explain to new members and remind others how a small board should function.”

   To create a strong team take the time up front to build relationships, develop clear goals and craft an onboarding and mentoring plan so that new members start off on the right foot. Implementing these three steps will ensure a solid team that cannot be broken!

**LEADERSHIP TIP**

When your team sets goals, have one be the development of an onboarding plan for new team members. This can be used every year to help those who are beginning committee service and will strengthen the entire team.
Barbara is an accomplished quilter and professional educator. She began sewing as a child, happily making doll clothes by hand or on her mother’s portable Singer sewing machine. Before she was five years old, Barbara learned to embroider and in first grade, she exhibited samples of her work on a class bulletin board. While in high school, she made her first full-size quilt top, cross stitched on a stamped Paragon pattern. A 40-year career in education followed Barbara’s college and graduate work. In addition to teaching on the high school and college levels, Barbara traveled extensively, often organizing and leading students on trips throughout Europe, Africa and Asia. During those years Barbara dabbled in various forms of needlework—needlepoint, crochet, knitting, flag making and quilting.

In 2006, she met and fell in love with Bill Carper, a retired businessman from Charles City, Virginia. They married in 2008, and Barbara moved to Charles City with Bill—they live in an idyllic spot on the historic James River, not far from Williamsburg. A friend who attended The Elly Sienkiewicz Applique Academy in Williamsburg for many years suggested that Barbara enroll in the academy in order to meet local needlewomen. There, she was introduced to appliqué and Baltimore album quilts. Barbara describes her first days at the Academy as intimidating, but the teachers she met quickly put her at ease, and the friends she made welcomed her to their weekly quilting bee. “If those ladies had been bank robbers, I would have been one too.” Fortunately, they were appliquéers and Barbara continues to sew with them every Friday.

In 2012, Barbara returned to the Academy as a classroom helper. Teacher Evelyn Crovo-Hall became her mentor and friend, introducing her to prepared edge appliqué. In 2017, Barbara joined the faculty of Barbara Blanton’s Academy of Appliquéd in Historic Williamsburg. In 2018, she will teach appliqué workshops in Williamsburg, at the Baltimore Appliqué Society in Baltimore, Maryland and at the Baltimore on the Prairie Appliqué Conference in Nebraska.

It was through her quilting activities that Barbara was introduced to P.E.O. Several stitchers in her weekly quilting bee, members of Virginia P.E.O. Chapter BQ, invited her to attend a variety of P.E.O. functions. With Barbara’s teaching background, she found P.E.O.’s mission to help other women further their educational goals a perfect fit. She finds the warmth, sincerity, caring and generosity of her P.E.O. sisters inspiring.

Last October Barbara Carper hosted the monthly chapter meeting of Chapter BQ, Williamsburg, Virginia, in her home on the James River. Most of us knew that she was a quilter although she is very modest about it. Our program was seeing as many quilts as possible from her early quilts to her most recent appliqué quilts. We were astonished with her creativity and expertise.
With Barbara’s teaching background, she found P.E.O.’s mission to help other women further their educational goals a perfect fit.

Baltimore Album Quilts

According to Wikipedia, “Baltimore Album Quilts originated in Baltimore, Maryland in the 1840s. They have become one of the most popular styles of quilts and are still made today. These quilts are made up of a number of squares called blocks. Each block has been appliquéd with a different design. The designs are often floral, but many other motifs are also used, such as eagles and landmarks. They have a background of white and incorporate many primary colors such as reds, greens and blues.”
What is the primary reason you attend your local chapter’s P.E.O. meeting? Is it the special connection between sisters? Is it the engaging program? Is it to hear about the latest project candidate? These are all terrific reasons to attend our meetings—right along with the important business we must conduct. While chapter and philanthropic vitality is at the heart of P.E.O., our business meetings provide the structure. Today’s fast-paced and demanding world requires us to acknowledge the importance of a business meeting having structure, therefore being well-run and time-efficient.

The first business meeting was held at the home of Mary Allen on January 23, 1869, just two days after the seven Founders’ memorable march into chapel. In Stella Clapp’s book “Out of the Heart: A Century of P.E.O. 1869–1969,” she gives us an idea where their priorities were placed: “At the Saturday meeting which followed there was still excitement, but the business was the order of the day, and the Founders knew how to conduct business.”

Thus, ideas began to form. As Clapp explains, “it was here that the Founders began to sense their responsibility towards something larger than themselves and their own precious friendship.”

That mindset exists today as we conduct our annual 12 regular business meetings. If run well, the meetings provide a sense of ownership toward our Sisterhood and that feel good, “Wow, we did this” feeling—a pervasive sentiment that makes us want more and to bring our friends along for the journey. We want to be present for those meetings, both physically and emotionally.

Making sure we have positive and productive meetings takes some planning and organization by all officers and committee members. A long meeting doesn’t correlate directly to getting a lot done. Actually, a concise meeting lends itself to results and will ultimately increase membership participation.

Do your chapter sisters look forward to your next P.E.O. meeting? If your answer is “no,” then it’s time to find out why. It could be that your chapter meeting isn’t fulfilling the sister’s expectations, hence she may not feel meetings are a good use of her time. We know that time is the world’s most valued commodity; therefore, no matter what their level of responsibility, we much respect the gift of time they give by attending meetings.

There are tools for each officer that help with managing their office and related responsibilities. Each officer has instructions, training information and additional resources with which to refer. Every state, provincial and district officer is available to assist when a question arises and of course, the previous office holder is usually a wonderful guide. Using our resources help us to be prepared, resulting in an effective and efficient meeting.

As the business of the chapter unfolds, those giving committee reports should be called upon and remember, this is not the time to review each detail but to give the report of the committee. Out of respect for the committee’s suggestions and for the time of all those present, this is not the time to make this a drawn-out chapter discussion. The committee will not feel their work valued if their recommendations are hijacked by extensive suggestions. Remember, the committee can always reconvene.

Perhaps a family meeting or a questionnaire sent via email or snail mail can open the dialog for sisters to share how they feel about your chapter meetings. Do the meetings need to be streamlined? Do chapter programs need to be more interesting? Do you all need to have more fun?

Bottom line:

☑ Does your chapter meeting fulfill the expectations of our sisters?
☑ Does it provide a place where the special connection between sisters can thrive?
☑ Do your sisters feel celebrating new project candidates and listening to fabulously interesting and fun programs is worth every minute of their time?

If yes, they will be at the next meeting—and we bet they will be more likely to stay actively participating and inviting their friends and family to do the same!
by Cathy Manhart, Educational Loan Fund Board of Trustees

Are you curious to know what career paths your Educational Loan Fund (ELF) recipients are pursuing? The ELF trustees are. In addition to monitoring the number of loans approved and dollars lent, statistics such as the number of recipients by degree, age range and career field are of valued interest to the trustees. This information assists in making informed policy decisions to strengthen the use of our loan fund.

As you read in the previous issue of The P.E.O. Record, your donations have allowed ELF to lend more dollars than ever before to a record number of recipients in our more-than-110-year history. Does your inquiring mind want to know how your hard earned fundraising dollars penetrate into our local communities?

During the application process, your ELF applicant indicates her vocation from a pre-designated career cluster. The chart below shows the 2016–2017 breakdown.

Do you find it fascinating to see there are more ELF recipients pursuing a career in one of the combined health related career clusters than any other? Statistically, 35 percent of your recipients will be entering a health-related career near you soon.

Notably, with 92 percent of women vs men in a nursing profession, and since nursing makes up the largest workforce within the clinical healthcare industry, this is a popular vocation for our recipients. Additionally, the traditional nurse’s career has evolved over the years, expanding to offer a wide variety of roles and a broad scope of responsibilities. Your recipients are pursuing a wide range of nursing specific professions. As P.E.O.s, we are accustomed to acronyms, so a few nursing careers being pursued by ELF recipients are: LPN, RN, BSN, MSN, NP, DNP and NA. Independent of other health related vocations, nursing, alone, comprises 14 percent of all ELF recipients.

What careers are included in the remaining 21 percent health cluster? Women in healthcare professions are spreading into numerous and diverse vocations. Many women are pursuing health-related careers that are considered “non-traditional.” In 2011, Canadian women comprised 31.1 percent and U.S. women 36.7 percent of our physicians and surgeons. Data from 2014, indicate 29 percent of all dentists are now women and these trends are increasing. Many of your ELF recipients are strengthening our communities as medical doctors, chiropractors, optometrists, dentists and general surgeons. Many recipients are choosing to specialize in these areas. Animal sciences, including veterinarians, are well represented in this category.

With the many varied health career options represented in this cluster, your ELF recipients are stretching their wings into more contemporary healthcare careers, including the numerous specialty areas of a Physician Assistant. Additional healthcare careers represented include pharmacists, occupational and physical therapists (including doctorates); midwifery; registered dietitians and dental hygienists; physical therapy and medical assistants; radiology, medical, surgical techs; and healthcare management. Our list continues to expand as your recipients engage in the ever-changing healthcare industry.

The statistics are in your favor. Your next ELF loan recipient could be as close as your health care provider’s office. P.E.O. and ELF are most certainly helping more women reach for the stars.

According to the United States Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of healthcare occupations is projected to grow 18 percent from 2016 to 2026.
Residence Halls’ Entries Renovated Thanks to Generous Gift from P.E.O. Sophia Zetmeir

by Dr. Jann Weitzel, President, Cottey College

At the meeting of Supreme Chapter in 1927, delegates voted to accept ownership of Cottey College. Thus, for 90 years, Cottey and the P.E.O. Sisterhood have partnered in the education of women. Today, as much as in 1927, this partnership thrives through the generosity of P.E.O.s such as Sophia Zetmeir.

The first major building project at Cottey after the Sisterhood assumed ownership was the construction of P.E.O. Hall in 1938. According to “The Life of Virginia Alice Cottey Stockard,” by Helen DeRusha, this new dormitory, designed “to house 100 girls” and “to follow [Alice’s] suite plan with additions she had never dreamed of” was appropriately named P.E.O. Hall and signified the Sisterhood’s commitment to supporting the College. On Alice’s 91st birthday, the Hall was dedicated; however, due to her waning health, Cottey’s founder was unable to tour the new structure until the next summer when John, her husband’s adult son, “came to visit...and arranged for a stretcher to carry her...on an extended tour of the building...As they carried her down the sidewalk toward her house...everyone knew that this was the last time she would traverse the walk her feet had used so many hundreds of times.”

P.E.O. Hall is the oldest of the three current halls and the only existing dorm to be built while Virginia Alice Cottey Stockard was living. Reeves Hall was built in 1949 and Robertson Hall, which includes Raney Dining Room, was built in 1959. Both Reeves and Robertson are located on the south side of campus while P.E.O. is located on the north side.

Suite upgrades occur on a regular basis, due in large part to the generosity of state/provincial/district chapters, alumnae and friends of the college. However, it has been many years since any serious renovation has occurred in the “parlor” or entrance lobby of the residence halls.

On Thursday, December 14, 2017, President Jann Weitzel was excited to announce that Sophia Zetmeir, past state president, Kansas state chapter, had generously gifted Cottey with $500,000 to start the renovation of the entrance spaces. Cottey retained GastingerWalker&, a Kansas City firm, to do the design work. In January, focus groups of students, faculty and staff were formed to share ideas about the design and needed amenities. It is the goal to keep the historic charm of the areas while also addressing the collaborative working and living needs of today’s students.

P.E.O. Hall will be the first to have its entrance area revitalized. Cottey is very grateful to Sophia for her generous gift. Sophia and her late husband Sonny were generous benefactors during Cottey’s A Defining Moment Campaign. Their philanthropic interests span local, state and national causes including Labette Community College, the Nelson–Atkins Museum of Art, kitchens for Habitat for Humanity across the United States, Big Brothers Big Sisters and their church, among others.

To Sophia, Cottey sends its most heartfelt gratitude. Sophia, your generosity will truly affect our students and our campus. Thank you!
Strength and Compassion in Work and Sisterhood

IPS Recipient Emiliana Bomfim Researches Breast Cancer Treatments, Becomes a P.E.O. Sister

by Barbara Olson, P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship Board of Trustees

Emiliana Bomfim, from Brazil, is an International Peace Scholarship (IPS) renewal student studying for her Ph.D. in oncology at the University of Saskatchewan, Canada. Her research investigates the biological effects of complementary and alternative medicine on fatigue, sleep, stress and quality of life in breast cancer patients, using a sample group of 20 breast cancer survivors. Her goal is to improve not only the treatment for breast cancer, but to enhance the post-surgery experience for survivors.

Emiliana is working closely with local cancer institutions and support groups and hopes that her Ph.D. proposal will help empower cancer patients and survivors to make informed decisions by providing them with accurate and useful information.

Emiliana has accomplished much in her first year as an IPS recipient; her award made it possible for her to participate in conferences such as the Canadian Cancer Research Conference, where, in addition to giving a poster presentation, she was able to attend great lectures and presentations. Opportunities such as this one play an important role in establishing partnerships with international research groups allowing for collaboration and integration with cancer specialists around the world. In addition, Emiliana volunteers at the Saskatoon Cancer Center, working closely with the population of patients she is researching and finds joy in being a peer mentor for the Peer Assisted Learning program, committing five hours a week to this program.

Emiliana has embraced P.E.O., not only for its support of her studies, but in her daily life. As soon as she was awarded her IPS scholarship in 2016, she contacted Chapter D, Saskatoon. “In October of 2016, I was invited to become a member and I promptly responded to the Chapter’s invitation. November 19, I was initiated... as a P.E.O. sister. Since then, I’ve been attending the meetings and luncheons every month. These are great moments to be involved with P.E.O. projects and to get to know the other P.E.O. members, whom I consider real seeds of strength, compassion and peace. I’ve been also receiving emails, letters, postal cards and gifts from all U.S. and Canada, and I’ve been enthusiastically responding to each one of them. All the positivity and good energy that come through these letters and emails are priceless.”

As a P.E.O. member, Emiliana has been caught up with the enthusiastic encouragement of her chapter. She realized being an IPS student means not only receiving financial support but also accepting a commitment to providing a positive ripple effect on women’s lives around the globe. This is what makes this scholarship unique, reinforcing that we all own a level of commitment to individual and collective growth. With this in mind, she enrolled in a project called “Alert Community to a Prepared Hospital: improving maternal–child health,” which takes place in Mozambique, a South African country. This project aims to create conditions in sub-Saharan African communities to reduce maternal and infant deaths by improving health services for women and tackling gender barriers that prevent access to effective health care. Emiliana feels lucky to be involved in this project which connects with her personal mission and journey of giving back to minority communities and to promote peace through work, friendship and education.

We look forward to mankind benefiting from her research and wish Emiliana the best as she continues her education as a “sister!”

“Working close to the breast cancer community gives me a sense of humanity, compassion and a solid foundation for community-based research.” — Emiliana Bomfim, IPS recipient
Women helping women reach for the stars

Chapter JO, Santa Rosa, California, is like any other chapter that actively seeks potential project recipients but this past fall they went above and beyond. Chapter president, Ann Ver Planck, had to brag a little about the chapter committee but especially about Eleanore Schiro, “the glue that holds it together.” Eleanore presents something about the philanthropies every month at chapter meetings, which could be a quiz to see how much chapter members truly know about the P.E.O. projects. Applicants are also lucky because Eleanore is not only passionate and knowledgeable about the philanthropies but she makes sure she, or a committee member, is available to potential candidates through every step of the application process. This extraordinary guidance did not go unnoticed by Amy Bradbury.

Amy found P.E.O. and Chapter JO through connections at the Santa Rosa Junior College. The initial interview found Amy to be the perfect candidate for both the P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education (PCE) and the P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund (ELF). The committee assisted her through the pre-application forms and presented her information to the chapter. It was unanimous to sponsor Amy and time was of the essence. Unfortunately, the Sonoma County wildfires broke out and caused a delay in proceeding due to four of the five women on the interview committee, including Eleanore, being placed under mandatory evacuation orders and displaced from their homes for almost 10 days. The diligence of the fire fighters from all over the west saved their homes and a recommendation was prepared once they returned.

Amy did not know how to reach the PCE trustees to tell them about the extra effort these women went through to assure her application was in on time so she did the only thing she knew how to do, she went to the P.E.O. website and found the “contact us” link. It was there she wrote;

“If you can just pass this on please... I just wanted to say how amazing my sponsoring chapter has been to me! (Santa Rosa, California) From the interview up until now they have been so supportive. Eleanore Schiro is my main contact. I feel regardless of whether or not I am awarded a scholarship that we will maintain contact throughout my nursing program. Our town went through a traumatic experience at the same time of this application process. It has been really tough for everyone and some of these ladies had been evacuated from their homes for days! But despite their own struggles they still pulled through for me and getting this process done. I think they should be recognized in some way. The other ladies names are (forgive me I don’t have all last names) Carla Baldassari, Kay, June, Jenny. I’m not sure if you do this but it would be great to recognize them for the kindness and perseverance on my behalf. Thank you so much for your time! Sincerely, Amy Bradbury”

Another unfortunate result of the fire was the hotel, where the committee usually held candidate interviews, was burned to the ground but this hasn’t deterred the committee’s commitment to finding another suitable location to continue their efforts. Kudos Chapter JO! A true example of Leading Forward, With Grace and Gratitude!
Nowhere is it more apparent that our Sisterhood is empowering women than when talking with a P.E.O. Scholar Award recipient! And that effect is a legacy of which we can all be proud.

Two sister-scholars, both initiated into their mother’s chapters in New York state, have had very diverse career paths, but each will enthusiastically tell you that, in addition to providing funds for their own education, the Scholar Award has also helped them support other women who have aspirations of higher education degrees.

Nancy Brown, initiated into Chapter AO, Syracuse, New York, in 1987 and current member of Chapter NM, Davis, California, received her Ph.D. in genetics in 1994 from Cornell University with the aid of a P.E.O. Scholar Award. However, sometimes life plans change, and her goal of conducting academic research has had a few twists and turns since then. Nancy finished her doctoral degree when she was seven months pregnant, and immediately after, her husband’s employer moved them to Cincinnati, Ohio.

Today, it is virtually impossible to plan your whole life, much less your entire career path. Nancy’s career is a prime example as her family has moved six times, each a promotion for her husband’s career. During all the moves and with the addition of another baby, Nancy, by choice, became a stay-at-home mom. She volunteered for the Scouts, at her children’s schools and her church; and frequently worked part-time in research labs or teaching at colleges and high schools. She discovered that she actually loved teaching. Throughout these encounters, Nancy helped other young women Reach for the Stars by talking with students about her career, encouraging them to “be open to possibilities,” and enticing them into the sciences.

The other sister-scholar, Bonnie Campbell, Nancy’s sister, was initiated into Chapter BT, Manlius, New York, in 1999 and is a current member of Chapter FZ, Pullman, Washington. Bonnie received her Ph.D. from Cornell University after she had already completed her veterinary schooling. As an associate professor at Washington State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine, she speaks nationally and internationally in her subject area, teaches in the veterinary school and mentors students during their surgery residence.

During their residencies, Bonnie passionately works to inspire and encourage students. “It takes a lot of steps to build up to their first surgery and I help them think through the processes,” she says. According to the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges, 2016-2017 enrollment in veterinary colleges is 80 percent women thus many of Bonnie’s students are young women who are also Reaching for the Stars.

Bonnie emphasized the significance of receiving a merit award such as the P.E.O. Scholar Award and stated that it is looked upon favorably and boosts employer interest during the hiring process. She also appreciated the encouraging notes and positive reinforcement she received from P.E.O.s during her doctoral program—labeling it as “the whole P.E.O. component of the Scholar Awards—the perpetuating effect of P.E.O. Scholar Awards.”

It is obvious that these two sister-scholars have had very different career paths, yet they both perpetuate the effect of the award. Each scholar highlights the importance of mentoring other women—women helping women reach for the stars—and supporting them in their academic careers. This is the great promise of the P.E.O. Scholar Awards.

Scholar Award recipients Bonnie Campbell (far left) and her sister Nancy Brown (second from left) come from a P.E.O. family. Barbara Grambow (third from left), their mother, is a 50-year member of P.E.O., initiated into Chapter AO, Syracuse, New York, in 1967. Barbara is now a member of Chapter AE, Durham, North Carolina. Deborah Kotecki (far right), sister of Nancy and Bonnie, was initiated into Chapter AO, New York, in 1983, is now a member of Chapter CR, Wake Forest, North Carolina, is a Past President of North Carolina State Chapter and is currently a member of International Chapter’s Leadership Development Initiative Committee.
Celebrate with STAR the wonderful news from the 2017 Convention of International Chapter in Charlotte, North Carolina—the P.E.O. STAR Scholarship is officially self-sustaining!

The P.E.O. STAR Scholarship was established in 2009 to provide non-renewable $2,500 scholarships to exceptional high school graduating women to attend accredited postsecondary educational institutions in the United States and Canada in the next academic year.

The first few years were lean, and the project was largely supported with undesignated funds from the P.E.O. Foundation. Over the years, financial momentum grew with the excitement of this new project and generous support from P.E.O. chapters and members until it was announced at the 2017 Convention of International Chapter in Charlotte, North Carolina, that the P.E.O. STAR Scholarship is self-sustaining. This is HUGE! You—our P.E.O. chapters and sisters—grew this project from the ground up and you are to be congratulated!

What does self-sustainability really mean? Simply stated, the P.E.O. STAR Scholarship Fund now generates enough investment income to cover the project’s operating expenses. This status translates to every dollar donated now going directly to fund scholarships.

So, why don’t we just dip into that accumulated fund to present more scholarships each year? After all, P.E.O. is all about helping women reach for the stars, isn’t it?

It’s a matter of conservation of resources...

Consider the model of conservation of natural resources. Some energy and material sources are renewable, such as solar, water and wind energy. So long as the sun shines, rivers run and wind blows, we can tap those resources with the proper equipment and redirect this energy for our use.

Other resources are considered non-renewable, such as uranium, natural gas, coal and crude oil. These resources take so long or are impossible to form that once they are consumed, they are gone.

There are other resources that are consumed but are renewable within a human lifetime, such as some forests. The sustainability of a forest is dependent on careful planning and management.

A sustainable forest is managed such that as trees are cut for energy, paper or building, they are replaced with seedlings that eventually grow into mature trees. Some trees, such as oaks, take much longer to grow to maturity, signaling closer regulation within an ethical system than the fast-growing pines. Regardless of the trees involved, forest management is a carefully and skillfully orchestrated system, requiring a strong knowledge base and respect for the environment for the long term.

It is the same idea with P.E.O. funds. We must consider the future as we manage our resources. Self-sustainability of our P.E.O. STAR Scholarship, as well as all our P.E.O. funds, is reliant on careful planning and expertise. The healthy long-term investment balance of our scholarship is the engine that generates the financial resources used to operate and provide scholarships. The more money in the fund, the more investment income is generated and the more scholarships we can provide well into the future.

STAR is thrilled to be self-sustaining. This status ensures that chapter dollars now all go toward scholarships for stellar young women. This is wonderful news! We invite you to CELEBRATE with STAR!

SEE HOW WE’VE GROWN!

$6,735,000 – In only nine years of STAR Scholarships, you have helped 2,694 students realize their dreams of entering college!

Thank you for your generous support!

*Each STAR Scholarship is $2,500.
Mary Bunn, AW, Portland, Oregon, was the 2017 Emerita Award Winner for the National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE). The Emerita Award recognizes individuals who have dedicated a great deal of time and effort to NAPE through active membership, service on the Executive Committee, or provision of equivalent services to advance the organization’s growth, skill level or leadership capacity.

Mary served the Oregon Department of Education for more than 20 years as an Equity Administrator/Education Specialist retiring in 2012. During that time, she represented Oregon as a NAPE State Member and served on the NAPE Executive Committee in 1999, 2000, 2008, and 2009. As a Member-at-Large on the Executive Committee, she made significant contributions to the organization as Chair of the Bylaws Committee.

Mary’s service to the NAPE Executive Committees, support for the NAPE organization and two decades of equity support and impactful service at the state and local levels make Mary a worthy winner of the Emerita Award.

In addition to administering significant grant programs for access, Mary also served as a Project Champion for the National Girls Collaborative Project “Advancing the Agenda in Gender Equity for STEM.” Work that she began with Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc. to promote nontraditional careers for women continues to this day.

Linda Mintener, H, Madison, Wisconsin, received the 2017 National Flute Association (NFA) Distinguished Service Award for her many years of pro bono legal work for the Association.

For the past 14 years, Linda has served as the NFA’s legal counsel. Until her retirement, Linda worked for 28 years as a litigator of large claim sales tax cases for the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

Linda is also a flutist and private flute instructor in the Madison, Wisconsin, area. She performs regularly as a soloist and as a member of various ensembles, including the Madison Flute Choir and its elite Chamber Ensemble.

Linda graduated cum laude from Indiana University (IU) School of Music. She is a member of the honorary music fraternities of Pi Kappa Lambda and Sigma Alpha Iota. After graduating from IU, Linda served for two years with the Peace Corps in Guinea, West Africa, where she taught flute at the Lycée Classique de Musique in Conakry, Guinea. Upon returning to the U.S., she settled in Madison, Wisconsin, where she resumed her flute studies at the University of Wisconsin (UW) and later attended and graduated from the UW Law School.

“It’s an incredible and very unexpected honor to be receiving the Distinguished Service Award,” said Linda. “My legal work for NFA has been interesting and at times challenging. It has always been a pleasure working with so many talented officers, staff and others over the years. Thanks to NFA for giving me the opportunity to use my legal skills to play a part in making the organization what it is today.”

“Linda Mintener is a gem! With tremendous skill, she has given sound legal counsel to the NFA for many years,” said NFA President Kyle Dzapo. “She’s a fine flutist, a generous soul, and clearly deserving of the Distinguished Service Award.”

Linda is a 50+-year member of P.E.O, initiated into Chapter JS, Davenport, Iowa, her mother and sister-in-law’s chapter, in 1961. After graduating from college and serving two years in the Peace Corps in Guinea West Africa, she moved to Madison, Wisconsin, and transferred to Chapter H.
AWARD-WINNING ideas

Easter Baskets Project

Each year, sisters in Chapter FH, Arlington, Texas, make Easter baskets to present to The Salvation Army Family Center. The project brings the chapter together and benefits their local community.

Chapter FH sisters make Easter baskets with care and love

Backpack Give Away

Sisters in Chapter FP in Tallahassee, Florida, volunteered at Good News Outreach’s Maryland Oaks Crossing Housing Program’s “Annual Backpack Give Away.” The housing program addresses the needs of single parents by offering safe, quality, rent-subsidized housing in Tallahassee. There are 48 homes in the complex, which boasts an on-site learning lab. Chapter FP donated school supplies for students ranging from kindergarten through college and four sisters spent the afternoon sorting the supplies into donated backpacks and distributing them to the children free of charge.

Members of chapter KJ hosted a successful card party fundraiser

The Little Chapter that Could

Chapter KJ, Long Beach, California, held its 36th annual Card Party fundraiser. With an active membership of only 13 (total membership 17), this little chapter raised over $3,600! They served a catered lunch and homemade cookies to 184 guests, many of whom attend year after year and love the party. Many repeat guests come from a local retirement community, and several members of a Red Hat society enjoy coming every year. Guests have a choice of playing Bunco or bridge before lunch. Opportunity tickets are sold for themed gift baskets and a very popular gift card tree. Drawings are held at the end of the party. Each sister has an assigned job, and keeps the same job every year, so the learning curve is small. Several daughters, and even granddaughters, help out wherever needed. And everyone bakes cookies!

Chapter FP sisters from the left: Shirley Benson, Nell Kelly, Elaine Daughtry, Kerri Mohar

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Chapter FP sisters from the left: Shirley Benson, Nell Kelly, Elaine Daughtry, Kerri Mohar
Chapter EF of Minnetonka, Minnesota, held a fundraiser called “Orange You Glad You’re a P.E.O?” With great enthusiasm, sisters arrived all decked out in every shade of orange imaginable and wrote their checks to support the P.E.O. projects. Tables were decorated with varieties of orange flowers in frozen orange juice containers and many orange foods and treats were served including orange mocktails, clementine cuties, sugared orange candies and orange creamsicles!

The program began with a singalong song written by two talented sisters. The sweet little ditty expressed their gladness in sharing in the Sisterhood:

Orange you glad you’re a P.E.O?  
Caring Sisters on the go.  
Sisterhood EF ready to grow.

Orange you glad you’re a P.E.O? 
Projects and Charities, fundraising anew 
Don’t forget we’re social too!  
Off to a great start, here we go!

Orange you glad you’re a P.E.O? 

To piggyback on the theme of gladness, the chapter chaplain chose the reading from Psalm 100, which speaks of giving grateful praise to the Lord with Gladness.

Chapter EF was very pleased that this easy-to-execute fundraiser was so well attended. The chapter received a contribution from more than 90 percent of its members and is thrilled to be able to generously support the P.E.O. projects.
Connect with P.E.O. International
ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: PEO International

Twitter: @PEOSisterhood

Instagram: @peointernational

LinkedIn: International Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood
NEW chapters

Chapter JK
Evergreen, Colorado
ORGANIZED: January 7, 2017
First row, from the left: Marilyn DuVon, Carol Slaughter, Harriet Sear, Nancy Westman, Karen McPherson, Penny Chapell
Second row: Bette Anne Mayberry, Colette Gill, Cindy Nicodemus, Brenda Jansen, Marnie Chisholm, Coni Osborn, Peggy Lawrence, Carolyn Hock, Laura Churchley
Third row: Sue Phelps, Deanna Weisenborn, Hazel Long, Colette Lambert

Chapter JG
Lakeland, Florida
ORGANIZED: August 27, 2017
First row, from the left: Nancy Fish, Buff Rhodes, Linda Gainer, Jeanne Hebert, Carol Myers, Piper Mislovic, Nancy Carter
Second row: Linda Marucci, Janice Jones, Cyndi Terry, Ampy Walker, Trish Buchanan, Suzanne Ellsworth, Patti Boldin, Susan Sargeant
Third row: Rebecca Knowles, Wendy Griffiths, Pam Matheny, Cheryl Pierce, Sheri Geiger, Linda Comer

Chapter JH
Amelia Island, Florida
ORGANIZED: October 28, 2017
First row, from the left: Leslie Prusi, Lisa Bauer, Tuckie Hitch, Linda Marshall, Terry Borakove, Betty Robinson, Linda Johns, Rosa Jones, Pat Stichweh, Dianna Chiles
Second row: Robin Lashley, Deb Boelkes, Judy Levers, Billy Powell, Patty Fields, Beth Steele, Jessica Styers, Pattie Pitts, Kathy Baxter

Chapter BS
Marietta, Georgia
ORGANIZED: November 19, 2017
First row, from the left: Elise Petersen, Valerie Lyle, Amanda Ripley, Ann White, Kathy Dreger
Third row: Lisa DeBlasio, Danielle Daykin, Bethany Sherrer, Laura Cotter, Angela Lindberg, Erika Dame, Cathy Decker
CHAPTER AF ★ COLFAX, WASHINGTON

**ORGANIZED:** March 9, 1917  
**CELEBRATED:** March 27, 2017

*First row, from the left:* Diane Solbrack, Robyn Tramposch, Charli Hochsprung  
*Third row:* Dana Carroll, Brenda Kneeshaw, Cathy White, Joann Wood, Mae Schultz, Linda Marler, Lynn Nelson, Arlene Hatley, Tammy Lewis

CHAPTER AR ★ URBANA, ILLINOIS

**ORGANIZED:** November 7, 1917  
**CELEBRATED:** November 7, 2017

*First row, from the left:* Jennifer Shaw, Carol Bosley, Sue Fischer, Joyce Wagner  
*Second row:* Barbara Swain, Pat O’Neal, Faye Reid, Marianne Adams, Imie Streeter, Susie Timmons, Nancy Tennant  
*Third row:* Rene Wahlfeldt, JoAnn Schlueer, Laura Muscattella, Linda Sandquist, Sue Helfrich, Gail Hawisher, Karen Dohme, June Cullum, Jill Rosenbaum, Beth Hutchens, Donna Kaye McFadden  
*Fourth row:* Pat Askew, Judy Sehy, Rhonda Wrona, Linda Hemminger, Teryl Pigott, Margie Jobe, Shirley Anderson, Mary Lou Daniel, Connie Shaw, Barb Barker, Anne Fahrner, Joey Lord, Marty Edwards, Carol Bunting, Carol Ann Green, Laura Cohen-Krumwiede, Marcia Reed

CHAPTER CT ★ UNIVERSITY CITY, MISSOURI

**ORGANIZED:** April 5, 1917  
**CELEBRATED:** April 8, 2017

*First row, from the left:* Brooke Taylor Duckworth, Eliza Angarano, Amy Dreller, Jill Downs, Terri Downs, Sherrie Gordon  
*Second row:* Lili Hostetler, Melody Wintz-Hostetler, Sara Tetley, Tami Timmer, Lisa Cary, Becky Fitzgibbon, Helen Berger, Mary Barge, Julie Herrmann, Cathy Hutter, Kathy Tahan, Clarice Hutchens

CHAPTER AH ★ BREMERTON, WASHINGTON

**ORGANIZED:** November 15, 1917  
**CELEBRATED:** November 18, 2017

*First row, from the left:* Pam Rowland, Ione Visick, Margaret Lindley, Laurel Leach, Marilyn Olsen, Donna Stamm  
*Second row:* Nancy Magisos, Barbara Baglio, Lorraine Olsen, Fran Valley, Maxine Warren, Karen Breen-James, Agnes Schultheis, Joyce Eyer, Darlene Olmsted, Beverly Barrett Judy Rowson
CHAPTER CY ★ KENNETT, MISSOURI

ORGANIZED: November 19, 1917
CELEBRATED: November 16, 2017

First row, from the left: Kris Crossno, Linda Kellely, Linda Collins, Benny Wheeler, Ada McHaney, Debbie Parker, Berniece Crow  
Second row: Mary Jo Byrd, Jill Mobley, Lisa Privett Marla Roberts, Barbie Pemberton, Donna Bradley, Joan Bazzell, Ethel Moore, Mariann Wright  
Third row: Tracy Ellis, Pam Lambert, Marilyn Legan  
Fourth row: Carolyn Bloebaum, Janet Carter, Beth Craig, Marianne Dolton, Patt Sharp, Peggy Cannon, Monte Owen, Christie Greenway  
Fifth row: Anita Brogden, Glenda Raspberry, Mary Lynn J Wright, Neya Hodgson, Judith Haggard, Donna Haman, Judy Richardson, Eleanor Dalton  
Sixth row: Mary Jean Moore, Flo Colhouer, Heather McHaney, Doris Brazeal, Mary Rose, Becky Harris, Judy Earnest, Verna Turnbow, Lee Poindexter, Michelle Perez

CHAPTER AT ★ LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

ORGANIZED: November 21, 1917
CELEBRATED: November 18, 2017

First row, from the left: Sally Kirkwood, Nancy Lawless, Janet Faro, Gay Kavanaugh, Ann Umfleett, Barbara Satterthwaite, Joan Gillespie, Sandra Diggs  
Second row: Judy Hutchinson, Susan Gher, Dorothy Hennessy, Theresa Rice, Jo Gardner, Marva Green, Martha Dollahan, Patricia Strange, Ann Agler, Frances Brinkley, Jean Leo, Jo Denison, Shannon Routh, Pam Nolan

CHAPTER BO ★ WESTWOOD, CALIFORNIA

ORGANIZED: January 4, 1918
CELEBRATED: January 4, 2018

First row, from the left: Rita Isbell, Adrienne Fagalde, Louise Osborne, Betty Bishop, Mary Ann Mayne, Jeanne Lynch, Greta Wing, Karen Wilson, Missi Nelson  
Second row: Jan Cox, Penne Ward, Sheri Bingswanger, Mary Kay Wilhelmson, Kay Johnson, Kim Hastings, Jacquie Cordova, Diana Long, Becky Compton, Beverly Emerson, Peggy Wright, Stacy Kronner, Melissa Hennessy

CHAPTER AU ★ PUEBLO, COLORADO

ORGANIZED: April 13, 1918
CELEBRATED: April 14, 2018

First row, from the left: Joyce Hudiburgh, Charlotte Adams, Carol Krutzke, Virginia Craig, Leanne Neu, Carol Nachtigall  
Second row: Kathy Scott, Patsy Pantleo, Mildred Threlkeld, Irene Sheard, Carol Frazier, Midge Bolibaugh, Nancy Colglazier, Dorothy O’Dowd  
Third row: Sally Pecoraro, Marita Draeger, Sandra Thomas, Eunice Storm, Juanita DeHeart, Ruby Ashley, Jean Donnelly, Betty Nunn, Bonnie Norton, Treva Bright, Charleen Crockett, Virginia Cisneros
Women helping women reach for the stars

ZANDRA BOWER

Zandra Bower, DA, Warsaw, Indiana, and her BIL Timothy wrote “Checker Cab's Adventure Fall Football Fun.” The book is targeted toward third-grade-level readers and tells the story of Taxi Driver and his stuffed animal and good luck charm, Bunwacky, getting the Checker Cab ready for a day’s work. The Checker Cab and Bunwacky have private conversations about the passengers and how taxis operate. The three fares of the day tell their stories—all having a connection to the big college football game in town.

Zandra has been a P.E.O. since 1988. She is a retired third grade teacher, librarian and technology teacher.

BONNIE BATEMAN KING

Bonnie Bateman King, IG, Sumner, Washington, launched her debut novel, “The Road to LaReta: A Novel based on a True Story.” Bonnie found it rewarding to research and write the Depression-era tale of her father, Webb Bateman, and his family in “The Road To LaReta.” “Based on my father’s sketchy notes,” Bonnie said, “and a box of letters he kept secret for 50 years, I was able to piece together his family life and the struggles of his first marriage.”

The book tells the story of Webb’s three-day journey to attend his wife’s funeral and his struggle to figure out what he will do with his 3-year-old daughter, LaReta. As his car moves forward, Webb goes back in time. A life of bad choices and the results of those decisions surface with each mile.

“Writing this book was a labor of love. I learned so much about my father and his family and came to understand more about myself,” said Bonnie.

GLENDA RICHMOND SLATER & DALE GOSS MOZLEY

Glenda Richmond Slater, author, and Dale Goss Mozley, illustrator, both of AB, Daphne, Alabama, have collaborated to produce a book of poems inspired by 20 of Shakespeare’s plays. “Fooling Around with Shakespeare” takes a unique and irreverent approach designed to appeal to middle and high school students just being introduced to the Bard, as well as to adults.

Glenda (pictured on the right), fell in love with Shakespeare in high school. She has a Ph.D. in speech-language pathology from the University of Cincinnati and a B.A. in English from the University of Alabama. She has been a speech communication teacher at various universities and a speech pathologist in various settings. In addition to poetry, she writes award-winning short stories and is the author of a children’s play. She grew up in Foley, Alabama and now lives with her husband, Carl, in Spanish Fort, Alabama.

Dale (on the left) is originally from Seattle, Washington. She holds graduate degrees in art psychotherapy and clinical social work from Eastern Virginia Medical School and the University of Alabama. Her undergraduate degree is from the University of Washington. She has taught art in public and private schools and in psychiatric settings. She works in acrylics, oils, watercolor, ceramics and organic materials—exhibiting and selling her art. She lives with her husband Paul in Fairhope, Alabama.

For Dale and Glenda, working together on “Fooling Around with Shakespeare” was yet another delightful gift from P.E.O.

JOAN HARRIS

Joan Harris, EK, New Smyrna Beach, Florida, is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and a published author of four children’s picture books. The books feature a very large dragon, Billy Bob, who plays the kazoo and makes s’mores with his fiery breath. Each book is intended to entertain and amuse children ages four to eight and to offer some thoughtful avenues to help children become more caring and compassionate. The latest book in the series, “Christmas in the Kingdom of Kool!” shows Billy Bob learning that Christmas isn’t only about gifts and more gifts. He learns the real meaning of Christmas and ways that he might give gifts of kindness to others.

KARLEEN GRUMMETT

Karleen Grummett, G, Juneau, Alaska, wrote “Quiet Defiance: Alaska’s Empty Chair Story.” This historical nonfiction story takes place after Japan bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, when people of Japanese ancestry living on America’s West Coast, including Alaska, were forcibly removed from their homes and jailed in detention camps. The story centers on a key event involving John Tanaka, a senior and designated class valedictorian. Before he and his family were shipped off of Juneau, a special assembly was held at the Juneau High School where John received an early diploma. However, later, at the actual graduation ceremony, in an act of quiet defiance a chair was left empty to express the void and injustice felt by the community for him and other missing friends and neighbors.
What unfolds is an account of how Japanese Americans living in Juneau between 1941 and 1951 reacted to their forced removal from Juneau in 1942, how their spirit and resolve helped them live during their imprisonment and how they renewed their lives following it. The story also shows how Juneau’s cross-cultural ties and friendships rallied support for their missing friends during and after incarceration, which led to a quest for justice over 70 years later with the building of the Empty Chair Memorial.

Karleen received her M.A. in writing from Northeastern University, has been recording life in her Juneau hometown for many years and for several of them taught writing at the University of Alaska Southeast.

MARTHA ABBEY MILLER

Martha Abbey Miller, TS, Westlake Village, California, wrote “Hope Personified: Frances Maschal Landers.” At 60, Frances took her first mission trip to Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. She often said that she was “only going to go once.” Instead, Frances made 43 trips, her last one at 91. Frances met and collaborated with a Haitian priest who believed educating Haiti’s illiterate children was his country’s only hope.

“Hope Personified” chronicles Frances’ three decades of funding and operating schools in the rugged mountains of southwestern Haiti. Despite challenges—learning to raise funds, Haiti’s unstable government, hurricanes, an earthquake, cancer and more—Frances changed tens of thousands of lives by bringing hope through education.

In 1999, Martha became involved with France’s Haiti Education Foundation (which continues today). Martha photographed hundreds of grateful schoolchildren in the mountains of Haiti.

JOY SMITH

Joy Smith, E, Charlotte, North Carolina, wrote “Tell Me a Story, I’ll Bake You a Cake,” a collection of stories, pictures and recipes taken from her cooking column, “Cooking With Joy”, which was featured in her local paper for 10 years. Some of the stories about kitchen disasters, the agony of math, the ecstasy of Baked Alaska and family “togetherness” will take readers back to a carefree time when kids ran barefoot all summer, caught lightning bugs and didn’t have to come home until the streetlights came on at night. Many of the pictures are vintage black and white family photos. The recipes are simple and non-threatening to the novice cook.

In addition to writing a cooking column, Joy participated as a sous chef on the Food Network show, “Ready...Set...Cook,” was a guest chef on the NBC show, “Charlotte Today” and taught a class “From the Garden to the Table.” Her stories and recipes have been featured in several newspapers and magazines.

In recent years, Joy has gone skydiving, traveled to Antarctica on a National Geographic Expedition, climbed mountains and searched for the perfect roller coaster. She has an art degree from the University of Richmond with a minor in creative writing and journalism.

SUE STEWART ADE

Sue Stewart Ade, HD, Pana, Illinois, wrote the romantic suspense novel “Friends Forever.” The book was a finalist in the Pacific Northwest Literary Contest.

The fast-paced novel begins when Quincy Matthews witnesses her best friend’s murder. To protect her friend’s child, she kidnaps the four-year-old girl and flees to Hickory Hills. There she meets Ace Edleston and a teenage romance is rekindled. Ace suspects Quincy is keeping secrets and confronts Quincy. Telling Ace about the kidnapping will make him an accessory, not telling him will make him walk away.

As Quincy wrestles with this decision, the killer is closing in. Will he find them, and if he does how far will Quincy go to keep the child safe?

Besides writing, Sue enjoys reading, golfing, traveling and spending time with her husband, Larry, two children and four grandchildren. She is a retired English teacher and a part-time writing instructor for Lake Land College in Mattoon.

JOYCE WINFIELD

Joyce Winfield, HK, Fremont, Nebraska, wrote “Forever Heroes: A Collection of World War II Stories from Nebraska Veterans.” Seventy-five years ago, on December 7, 1941, Japanese fighter planes attacked Pearl Harbor, drawing the United States into World War II. An estimated 16 million Americans served during the war, including 21 whose stories are told in “Forever Heroes.” In the 1940s, the ages of these 21 men and women ranged from 17 to 24. Today, the youngest is 89 and the oldest is 96.

Their stories include being a German prisoner of war for 11 months, suffering injuries at the Battle of Okinawa, and surviving after his ship was torpedoed and sunk in the Pacific Ocean.

Joyce had a 22-year career of teaching Journalism and English classes, both in high school and college. She earned her Ph.D. in mass communication from the University of Minnesota and her M.A. in mass communication from the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Writing Resources, the business she started in 2008, provides Joyce the opportunity to continue working with words through writing, editing and proofreading.

Joyce and her husband, Doug, have lived in Fremont, Nebraska, for 19 years.

CHRISTINE STEWART-NUNEZ

Christine Stewart-Nunez, CA, Brookings, South Dakota, wrote two new books of poetry—“Bluewords Greening” and “Untrussed.” In “Untrussed,” Christine draws upon a number of styles—ekphrastic, lyrical, formal, persona—to create a collection that explores the promises of love and loss. From pleasure to pain to hope of new love, this collection draws readers into the everyday magic of the world.

“Bluewords Greening” is about motherhood, love, family, fear and failure, drawing from Christine’s experiences with her son’s diagnosis with a rare form of epilepsy.
Somewhere in the Cottey College archives there may be a record of when Verne Shaw Messer, Chapter V, Watertown, South Dakota, first visited the Cottey campus. During that trip in 1949 or 1950, Verne was accompanied by her BIL, Joseph W. Messer. One thing that made an indelible impression on Joe was the chapel located in Main Hall that he described as “old and small,” although it served its purpose for Sunday School, Vespers and other services. One can imagine the discussions and how a dream began during the drive back to South Dakota and their home in Watertown.

The full dream was expressed during the 1950 South Dakota P.E.O. State Convention when Joseph proposed that Cottey deserved a new free-standing Chapel and that it should be developed and financed by BILs. From that suggestion, the Cottey Board of Trustees approved Mr. Messer’s suggestion and, in 1951, established a Chapel Advisory Committee. The brilliant move by that Board of Trustees was to foster a group of Chapel Chairmen made up of one BIL from every state having a P.E.O. chapter. These men were tasked with raising the estimated $250,000 to build a new chapel. It took six years to raise the funds and construct the chapel that was dedicated in the spring of 1957. Of note, that $250,000 in 1951 would be $2,400,000 today!

Now, exactly 61 years later, students attending Cottey College still find the Chapel an inspiring structure located in the heart of the campus. There is no doubt from the outside that this is a chapel with its traditional architectural shape and spire. The main room seats 480 and houses the Dysart Memorial Organ, a 21-rank Hammer-Reuter organ and the Nell Farrell Stevenson grand piano. There is a small side chapel, parlor and full basement used for meetings and various campus activities. The Chapel is the site for special remembrances, particularly during Founder’s Day activities when alumnae gather to celebrate the rich Cottey heritage and their lifelong friendships.

A few months ago in Watertown, South Dakota, Joseph W. Messer was inducted posthumously into the Watertown Hall of Fame. Having passed away in 2001 at the age of 98, Joe Messer’s legacy continues not only as the driving force behind the development and financing of the Cottey College Chapel, but also for many philanthropic activities in Watertown and throughout South Dakota, especially helping needy college students with their educational expenses.

Joe was married for 63 years to his wife Verne who passed away in 1988. Of their three children, Joseph, Mary and Lois, two are Cottey alums: Mary McAdams, class of 1956 and Lois Barrett, class of 1966.

Today, 61 years after its dedication, the Chapel is in need of a long-overdue update. This was brought to the attention of the men attending the BIL Coffee hosted by Cottey College President Dr. Jann Weitzel during the P.E.O. International Convention held in Charlotte, North Carolina, last November.

As recently announced by President Jann Weitzel, Sophia Zetmeir, past president, Kansas state chapter, generously gifted Cottey with $500,000 to start the renovation of the residence hall entrance spaces. (See the full story on page 28) With funding from the P.E.O. Foundation, Cottey has retained the architectural firm of Gastinger Walker & of Kansas City to do the design work. Simultaneously, Gastinger Walker & will also start design work on improvements to the first floor of the library—and the Chapel. While we don’t yet know what the update to the Chapel will encompass, there will ultimately be approved elements and associated costs.

The inscription on the front of the Chapel is from Proverbs 3:6-8 and reads: “In All Thy Ways Acknowledge Him,” and is said to be a description of the life’s work of BIL Joe Messer. As with the example of Sophia Zetmeir and her gift, I look forward to seeing how we BILs can use our gifts to continue Joseph W. Messer’s legacy to ensure the future of the Chapel as the centerpiece of Cottey College.

Stay tuned for future updates!
ITEMS FOR sale

Members may view all items for sale at
https://members.peointernational.org/itemsforsale
ITEMS FOR SALE

Members may view all items for sale at
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Exciting news! The Introduction of a Woman Who is Not a P.E.O. form is now available as an online form, in addition to the PDF version. The Introduction of a Woman Who is Not a P.E.O. form has been P.E.O.’s way of helping introduce women who don’t live in the same area as you to the organization for many years. Most of us know women who would be wonderful additions to P.E.O. If they live close to you, it’s as simple as inviting her to a chapter social or to get together with a few members to talk about the organization before extending an invitation. If they don’t live nearby, the Introduction of a Woman Who is Not a P.E.O. form allows you to introduce, or recommend, women to chapters in their area, and the chapters take over from there.

Until now, this form has only been available as a PDF or Word document that can either be printed and mailed or attached to an email sent to local chapters. The new online form saves you two steps—finding which chapters to send the form, and the actual sending of the form. With the new form, once it has been completed on our website and you submit it, an email notification is automatically sent to local chapter presidents in the geographic area of the woman you are recommending, as well as to that state/provincial/district organizer. You will also be notified of which chapters receive the form. This online form was created with the intentions of simplifying the process and encouraging more members to recommend women that they know.

For those of you who still prefer to use the PDF version of the form, rest assured! It is still available for you to use. Both the online and PDF forms can be found on the P.E.O. International Member Website by going to the Membership menu and selecting Introduction of a Woman Who Is Not a P.E.O. or by clicking on the Introduce a Woman link at the top of the site. The form can also still be found under the local chapter president’s forms and under quick links.

Who could you introduce to P.E.O. this way? Help strengthen our Sisterhood and give the gift of membership by recommending someone today.

What information do I need to fill out on the form?

You will need:

- Name and contact information of the woman you are introducing (physical and mailing address, phone number, email address)
- A brief introduction of the woman, which can include information about her family, work, interests, community involvement, etc.
- Your own contact information and chapter information (chapter letters and state/province)

Add a P.E.O. Frame to Your Profile Picture on Facebook!

Want to show your P.E.O. pride online? Add a P.E.O. frame to your profile picture on Facebook! Many of you already have—looking great, ladies!
P.E.O. Bed and Breakfast Program

Information on the P.E.O. Bed and Breakfast program will be sent the beginning of April to presidents of all currently participating chapters. As a reminder, an up-to-date listing of P.E.O. Bed & Breakfasts is available on the P.E.O. International member website under Resource Library and then Listings & Directories.

P.E.O.s Living Outside the U.S. and Canada

Names and addresses of P.E.O.s serving as overseas contacts in countries around the world are provided on the P.E.O. International member website under Resource Library and then Listings & Directories. Members living abroad are encouraged to strengthen their P.E.O. ties by communicating with the contact in their area.

Members willing to serve in this role should call the P.E.O. Executive Office or email commassist@peodsm.org by June 1. P.E.O.s who agree to serve the Sisterhood by welcoming other P.E.O.s to their respective areas are not to be asked to serve the vacationing or business interests of individual P.E.O.s.

"Introduction of a Woman Who is Not a P.E.O." Form

Starting in March 2018, a new web-based form and automated process is available for the Introduction of a Woman Who is Not a P.E.O. form. Please see the Tech Tip on page 48 for more information on the new process.

Reporting Officers for Local Chapters, Reciprocities and P.E.O. Groups and Local Chapter Project Chairmen

It's time for local chapters, reciprocities and P.E.O. Groups to report newly elected officers.

• Officers
  On the P.E.O. International member website, go to Resource Library, then Local Chapter Officer Resources and choose Corresponding Secretary Forms. There you will find the Report of Election of Officers of Local Chapter.

• Local Chapter Project Chairmen
  These are reported on the P.E.O. International member website by going to Resource Library, then Local Chapter Officer Resources and choosing Corresponding Secretary Forms. There you will find the Local Chapter Report of Project Chairmen. By reporting your local chapter project chairman, you will be able to receive project information more expediently from your s/p/d chairman.

• Reciprocities and P.E.O. Groups
  These are reported on the P.E.O. International member website by going to Resource Library, then Listings & Directories and choosing Reciprocity. There you will find the Report of Election of Officers and Contact Person of Reciprocities and P.E.O. Groups.

Rx:TLC Listing

The Rx:TLC listing, which can be found on the P.E.O. International member website under Resource Library and then Listings & Directories, lists chapters willing to help P.E.O. members or their families who are hospitalized or in need of assistance when away from home.

To be included or change a listing for either the regular or college section, please send the information to commassist@peodsm.org. To better help our sisters needing assistance, please list two contacts when possible. The chapter's listing will run until we are advised to change or delete it.

LEAD scheduled for July 20

State/provincial/district presidents and organizers will focus on “150 Years Strong – Lead Forward” at the 2018 LEAD Conference in Des Moines, Iowa, July 20-22. The Heritage Tour to the P.E.O. birthplace in Mount Pleasant will take place in one day, on Thursday, July 19. All day sessions on Friday and Saturday as well as Sunday morning until 10 will be full of interactive learning and sharing. Flights home should be arranged after 12 noon on Sunday. Registration opens March 15. For more information, visit https://members.peointernational.org/lead.

Cottey Summer Workshop for Young Women

Cottey’s Summer Workshop for young women entering their junior or senior year of high school is an exciting opportunity that offers students insight into leadership, skill development and college course exploration. It also is a great way to showcase everything Cottey has to offer. Registration for the June 17-22, 2018 Summer Workshop continues through May 31, 2018. You may find more information at cottey.edu/workshop or email workshop@cottey.edu.

Celebrating 150 years of Women Helping Women Reach for the Stars!

The Sesquicentennial Celebration Committee cordially invites all descendants of Founders or first decade (1869–1879) members to contact Carol Nemitz at cnemitz@iw.edu. Special activities and recognitions are being planned as part of the 150th anniversary.

Please see pages 11-14 and 19 of this magazine for more information regarding the upcoming P.E.O. 150th anniversary including information on the “We Who are Sisters” pictorial history book and commemorative jewelry piece. The back cover of this issue has important information regarding the 150 Fund. Visit www.peo150.org to quickly access more information any time.
Send completed form, including your former address printed in the upper right corner (or give address at which magazine was last received), six weeks in advance of your move.

Mail  
Membership Dept., P.E.O. Executive Office  
3700 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50312-2899  

Fax  
The P.E.O. Record, 515-255-3820  

Call  
800-343-4921 (automated line available 24 hours a day. May not be available in all areas of Canada.)  

Email  
membership@peodsm.org  

Web  
peointernational.org (log in as a member and click on ‘manage membership’)  

Automatic Address Change: The P.E.O. Record may be mailed to two different addresses if the same seasonal address is used at the same time every year.

**Address or Name Change** (please print)

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**Celebrate P.E.O.’s 150th anniversary with a contribution to the P.E.O. 150 Fund!**

$150 for 150 years!

With a goal of 100% local chapter participation, each chapter is encouraged to donate $150.

Individual donations are also encouraged—make a donation to the fund in honor or in memory of a special P.E.O. in your life.

The majority of these funds will be used to supplement the International Chapter philanthropic projects.

More information, including how to donate, is available at [www.peo150.org](http://www.peo150.org)