THE P.E.O. RECORD
Philanthropic Educational Organization
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018

International Peace Scholarship Fund

WE P.E.O. WOMEN WOULD JOIN HANDS IN ANY MOVEMENT LOOKING TOWARD THE ABDISSION OF WAR.
FRANC ROADS ELLIOTT, 1919
OFFICERS OF International Chapter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Sue Baker</td>
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<td>First Vice President</td>
<td>Brenda J. Atchison</td>
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<td>Patricia L. Brolin-Ribi</td>
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<tr>
<th>Administration Staff</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Jackie Matt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Finance/Treasurer</td>
<td>Kathy A. Soppe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Communications/Historian</td>
<td>Kate Westercamp</td>
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The administrative staff has offices at the P.E.O. Executive Office.

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Layout and design of The P.E.O. Record by Allison Vial
“When I think of the past and look to the present and dream of the future, I am filled with hope and great expectations lure me onward.”

— Founder, Ella Stewart

For nearly 150 years, P.E.O. has been steadfast in our effort of “women supporting women.” It is not a trend, not a movement, but it is who we are and have been for a very long time!

One of the great splendors of our Sisterhood is our age diversity; the intergenerational relationships we so appreciate. Our older members add that polish, knowledge and wisdom essential to sustain the traditions and to cultivate connections with our past. We need them to gently mentor new sisters toward the true spirit, so that passion will sustain the good words and works of P.E.O.

Recently engaging in conversation with a number of young members in their 30s to see what they love about P.E.O., and why they take time from their busy work and family lives to attend local chapter meetings, I learned the following: “I want to come to meetings because it is a positive environment; everyone gets along and works collaboratively for the benefit of women.”; “It is a reach beyond myself and my often-mundane schedule. I am constantly empowered and inspired to be the best that I can be.”; “It is a chance to connect deeply through conversation and shared experiences with people I love and who love me back.”

Is this how your chapter sisters feel? Are they always experiencing the positive voice of P.E.O. and feeling empowered by your love? If there is discord in your life, consider this thought from Maria Shriver in her book, “I’ve Been Thinking,” “Getting rid of complaining helps me to move forward with gratitude. It helps me to focus on what is beautiful in my life and the gifts that have been given to me. I ask for the grace to forgive others quickly and completely.”

At a convention, I heard these words conveyed and related to our Opening Ode, “Help us to listen with our hearts as well as our minds and to reach out to each other in love and respect as we deepen our relationships. Guide us to model our ideals and teachings of faith, love, purity, justice and truth, so we may make glad and holy the secret places of our hearts. May we spread grace to each other and carry it to our homes and communities and may our blessings shine as brightly as our star in our daily lives.”

Receiving your stories of how you “Strengthen the Heart of P.E.O.” inspires me. The extreme kindness of our sisters, as told by Marcheta Humphrey, president of Chapter DM, Indiana, follows:

“One of our dear sisters was diagnosed with aggressive lymphoma and elected for comfort measures as her only treatment. As she began to get her affairs in order, she requested help to finish the quilt top her parents had received as a wedding gift in 1887. The ‘treasure’ in our chapter is Xenia Cord, a member of the Quilter’s Hall of Fame, who immediately dropped all of her national responsibilities to shop for backing, select a design, deliver it to her favorite machine quilter and swiftly sew the binding by hand, knowing our sister’s time on earth was limited. The quilt was finished with an embroidered label including the provenance of the quilt as a gift to our member’s niece. Sisters are like quilts—they age with you, and yet, never lose their warmth. Take good care of them.”

Our Founders were filled with HOPE, and we should be too, as P.E.O. reinforces our belief in humanity and inspires us to work harder and to lead forward with great love. Please ponder our slogan of “each one, bring one” and give the precious lifetime gift of P.E.O. membership to a deserving woman in your life. Who wouldn’t want to join our noble effort of “women supporting women?”
September-October

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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 Cotney 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. 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.

**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.

**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.
State Convention Sparks P.E.O. Inspiration

Seven years ago I was asked to consider being a photographer for the Kansas State P.E.O. Convention. My mom had suggested my name; initially I was not thrilled about the idea, but told myself it wouldn’t be very “sisterly” to turn down the request. I put a smile on and showed up, hoping not to mess anything up. I’d been a P.E.O. for five years at that point. By the end of night one, my entire attitude about convention and ownership of my membership in P.E.O. had changed.

I left that convention feeling inspired, empowered and for the first time, like it was MY organization, not just my mother or grandmother’s.

I’ve been lucky enough to get to go to the Kansas State Convention six out of the last seven years (getting to share three of them with my mom) and have loved every minute. As a photographer, I get to see all the moments of sisters excited to reunite as well as the moments when you can see the “spark” ignite in someone else.

I encourage sisters to go to state/provincial/district conventions, especially all new sisters. I promise you’ll leave feeling inspired because it truly is MAGICAL! I’m already looking forward to next year.

— Aubrey Jones, CJ, Pittsburg, Kansas

An Unexpected Thank You Note

Last month one of my sisters in Chapter JR, Rocklin, California, Bruna Kibbey, came out of the grocery store to find a note tucked under the windshield wiper of her car. Written on the back of a receipt was the following:

— Betty Asher, JR, Rocklin, California

Love for the Redesigned Record

I LOVE, LOVE, LOVE the information-packed last two editions of The P.E.O. Record. Thank you! My copies are becoming dog-eared as I share articles with my chapter, neighbors and friends who may not be P.E.O.s. Sue Baker’s opening remarks in each have been so powerful. Keeping the biennium goals prominently in each issue, using the 2019 reminder, is great.

Something has changed and I want to congratulate everyone involved in making our Record great.

— Jill Seinola, Past President, Minnesota State Chapter
7 DECADES OF THE
International Peace Scholarship Fund

We need women leaders to bring peace to this world.

Gratitude first, always brings peace!

Let peace begin with me.

"I chose life is to quest a leader to

Peace among all nations = equality for

women.

You are a light in a world that needs more togetherness.

You were created to be for

the world.

Be bold in being who you were created to be for the world!

Education for women can change the world!

Practice patience for world peace.

Any small act can have a ripple!

Seek first to understand then to be understood.

Praying for wisdom of our leaders understanding of different thoughts, ways, and cultures.

May we learn to love one another for our differences as well as similarities.

Accept others as you would have them accept you.

“I believe that is to quit a hunger to

Let there be peace on earth and let it

begin with P.E.O.!”
The International Peace Scholarship (IPS) Fund will celebrate 70 years in 2019 and has come a long way from its inception in 1949. A vision of the future of IPS came when Franc Roads Elliot introduced a peace resolution at Convention of Supreme Chapter in 1919 which she stated “We P.E.O. women would join hands in any movement looking toward the abolishment of war,” thus planting the seed for what is now the International Peace Scholarship, Fostering Peace through Education.

As World War II raged from 1939-1945, Supreme Chapter established the United Victory Fund as a way to express the gratitude of the Sisterhood to soldiers on the battlefront. Voluntary gifts were collected and funds were used to provide food and entertainment to servicemen overseas.

After the war, during the 1947-1949 biennium, P.E.O. appointed committees to research the feasibility of loans or scholarships for foreign students wanting to study in the U.S. and Canada. The first international scholarships of $1,500 each were awarded in 1949 to two students; Kristi Jaantilla of Finland and Margretta Alder of Switzerland, using funds from the P.E.O. Victory Fund.

IPS became an official project in 1959 at the Convention of Supreme Chapter, becoming the P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship Fund and the Victory Fund was terminated. Foreign students attending Cottey College were also included in consideration for these awards.

At Convention of Supreme Chapter, IPS is granted status as a project and is officially named the P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship Fund, at the same time the United Victory Fund is terminated.

1959

1968

Designated Awards are created, bringing P.E.O.s closer to the spirit of IPS.

1979

The first IPS logo is designed by Paula “PJ” Jorgenson, W, Falls Church, Virginia.

2005

Award amounts are increased to $8,000 for international graduate students and $4,000 for international Cottey students.

2001

Named International Peace Scholarship Fund is created. A one-time scholarship given to a top student from chapters or individuals who donate an amount equal to one IPS scholarship.

2007

A record amount of $1,754,000 is awarded to 232 students, the sixth year in a row that awards exceeded one million dollars.

Part of the money raised from P.E.O.’s United Victory Fund was used to purchase Red Cross Clubmobiles, remodeled buses that provided servicemen with food, entertainment and a connection with home. Clubmobile volunteers handed out coffee and donuts while soldiers listened to music. Clubmobiles also offered books, candy, gum and cigarettes. This photo shows three P.E.O.s at the Minnesota State Convention in 1944 with a model of a Clubmobile. From the left: Mildred McCune, Gertrude Tomhave and Mary Bones.
The lofty goal of Fostering Peace through Education may seem out of reach, but the success and vision of IPS students continue to give hope of this possibility. IPS student, Lian Wairimu Kariuki, from Kenya, recently shared, “a dream many said was impossible, may just become reality.”

On May 11, 2018, Lian was one of three Global Youth Ambassadors who presented 1.5 million signatures to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, calling for a new International Finance Facility for Education. This funding plan is the first step to get children all over the world, into school for the first time.

UN chief António Guterres met with the Global Youth Ambassadors and said, “We cannot accept 250 million children failing to learn even the most basic skills... They all need education so they can help build a world of peace, prosperity, dignity and opportunity for all...”
Since the inception of the project, the majority of IPS recipients have come from **Asia—3,365**. There have been **1,336** students from **Africa**, **1,273** from **Europe** and **602** from **South America**. The remainder are from the **West Indies**, **New Zealand**, **Australia** and **North and Central America**.

**TOP 24 COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF IPS STUDENTS FROM 1949-2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>98</td>
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<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>240</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,414</strong></td>
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Celebrate P.E.O.’s Sesquicentennial with a Contribution to the 150 Fund!

- With a goal of 100 percent 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.
- 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.

$150 in honor of 150 years!

D.C. Meets the Challenge!

EVERY local chapter in the District of Columbia has contributed to the 150 Fund.

Will your state, province or district be next?

Commemorative 150 Celebration Jewelry Now Available!

During P.E.O.’s 100th anniversary in 1969, a charm was created to commemorate the milestone. 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 our Sisterhood’s 150th year.

These limited-edition sesquicentennial celebration pieces are available exclusively from Herff Jones, the official jeweler of P.E.O. Visit www.peo150.org for more details, including how to order.

Own a piece of P.E.O. history! This attractive coffee table book is 9” x 12” and features:
- More than 300 photos
- Fascinating facts
- State, provincial, district histories

Books are $40 plus tax and shipping.

Visit www.peointernational.org/150 or www.peo150.org and click through to purchase the book from the publisher.

Books will begin shipping January 2019.

Preorder “We Who Are Sisters”—the new P.E.O. Pictorial History Book
P.E.O. for the Next Generation: Encouraging Chapter Participation

by Debbie Clason, Coordinator of Membership Development

This article is the third in a series of four based on member suggestions contributed during the P.E.O. for the Next Generations workshop at the 2017 Convention of International Chapter.

Thriving chapters are full of sisters who take turns sharing leadership responsibilities as their time and talents permit and support each other through every stage of life. If you’re having trouble engaging younger members in chapter life, take a look at your current practices. Are there things you can be doing which might better promote their inclusion? Here are some suggestions participants shared at the P.E.O. for the Next Generations workshop during the 2017 Convention of International Chapter. As in the previous two articles, you may find these concepts apply to members of all ages, not just your younger sisters.

Allow job sharing. According to the Instructions to Officers of Local Chapters (IOLC), “the president may appoint an assistant for any officer, except for the office of president.” That means all other offices—corresponding secretary, treasurer, recording secretary, guard and membership chairman—can be shared and both names listed in the chapter yearbook. This might create an excellent opportunity to create partnerships between sisters who, for one reason or another, are unable to commit to fulfilling the responsibilities of leadership on their own.

Run business meetings efficiently. Members of all ages will be more likely to attend meetings if the content is meaningful and respectful of their time. Is your chapter implementing any of these time-saving methods?

• Ask the guard to take the password as members arrive, before the meeting begins.
• Be intentional about starting the business meeting on time.
• Request that chairman discuss business with their committee members outside of the meeting and bring only recommendations to the entire chapter for a vote.
• Write minutes which reflect what was done, not what was said. The Template for Minutes of Regular Business Meeting, located in the Recording Secretary’s section of the online Resource library (https://members.peointernational.org/resource-library/local-chapter-officers/recording-secretary) is a great resource for putting this into practice.

Help these sisters develop a passion for P.E.O. There’s a learning curve to all new things and becoming acquainted to P.E.O. customs and traditions is no exception. Here are a few suggestions for ensuring that all members fully understand the mission of P.E.O. and the important role they play in chapter life.

• Provide a safe, comfortable environment for open questions.
• If they cannot attend meetings regularly, include them on a project or committee which suits their abilities and commitment level.
• Ask them to present a program of their choice.
• Pay their way to convention so they can see the “big picture of P.E.O.” and hear project recipients tell their stories.

Above all, let our sisters know they are valued, even when they are unable to participate. The vows we took are reflex—as each sister promised to give P.E.O. a fair share of her time and talent on her initiation day, her chapter sisters responded with a promise to love and support her to the best of our abilities. Whenever one of us is unable to participate for any reason, the rest are presented with an opportunity to put into action what we pledged the day she became a P.E.O.
Some of you may have memories of summer vacations at Grandma’s house or maybe a trip to the lake for a chance to play with cousins and walk to the store for a bag of candy. It was the best part of the summer. Remember anticipating those trips? Choosing toys for the road? It was bliss!

Similarly, months of planning a road trip in October 2017 gave me great pleasure as I researched historic sites, contacted friends and packed the right gear. I was tantalized by colorful state websites but found tourist information packets to be even better. They include maps! In my world, a map is large and foldable and shows more than one route from here to there. Maps are stored in the glovebox. Maybe you remember?

By September 1, 2017, my travel plans were pretty well set. I had built an itinerary with plenty of slack to mitigate the stress of things unexpected. It was a good plan, however, my departure was complicated by my third breast cancer diagnosis. A lump turned up on a routine mammogram the first week in September; I added a raft of diagnostic tests and doctor consults to an already busy month.

White space on my calendar was at a premium! I was determined to drive out of town on September 30 as I anticipated hiking in southern Utah, seeing the dawn ascent at the Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque, visiting friends in Colorado, attending my nephew’s wedding at Snow Basin in Utah… and my first stop, a P.E.O. Bed & Breakfast in Lincoln, Nebraska.

I was disoriented and exhausted when Mary Petik, Chapter AD in Sandy, Utah, opened her front door. She led me to the kitchen table and brewed a pot of tea. We talked for a couple of hours before her husband, Bud, joined us for dinner at a nearby restaurant. We exchanged stories about cancer and healing as we shared a meal. This miracle of time and place, intimacy and trust, exemplifies why I love P.E.O. Bed & Breakfasts.

Louisa Young, Chapter H in Boulder, Colorado, lives within walking distance of The Hill, an iconic commercial district near the University of Colorado. After a day of driving, it was soothing to walk to dinner at a superb Middle Eastern restaurant adorned with twinkling white lights. In the morning, Louisa directed me to an Apple store for a cell phone repair before my drive back to Minnesota. Concierge services from a local are unbeatable!

The ease and comfort of staying in a P.E.O. B&B cannot be overstated. The satisfaction of supporting our projects feels great. Try it. I think you’ll like it!

— Nance Purcell is a member of Chapter EP in Stillwater, Minnesota. She is a retired teacher and has enjoyed staying in P.E.O. Bed & Breakfasts for over 20 years.
ELLLOWYN NADEAU
Ellowyn Nadeau is a civil engineer and a faculty member in the department of Civil Engineering, Technology and Construction Management Degree Program at Red River College. She is vice chair of the Manitoba Women in Construction Board Association, is the first women to serve on the executive board of the Winnipeg Construction Association and is in line to become its first ever female chair in four years. She is a fourth-generation P.E.O.

LORI GARET
Lori Garet is a civil engineer and owner of North Perimeter Construction. Lori is one of a handful of women in Manitoba who own their own construction business. She is also a member of the Manitoba Apprenticeship and Certification Board and the Manitoba Women in Construction Association. Lindsey Arseny, her sister, is the accounting and human resources manager for Lori’s company.
There are so many words we can use to describe giving to the P.E.O. Foundation and supporting the P.E.O International educational projects.

What is your word?

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SHEENA BRAUN, B.SC.
Sheena Braun, B.Sc., is a director at large on the Board of the Manitoba Women In Construction Association. She has been in the construction industry for over 25 years. While at university she worked part time in the industry to pay for her schooling. She is the first and only woman in general management for Westland Construction Ltd.

In celebration of International Women’s Day 2018, the Manitoba Women in Construction Association, a group of women working within the industry who share a common goal of supporting, educating and mentoring women in construction, held a special panel event called Building Her Story. Sheena Braun helped organize this event with Ellowyn Nadeau and other members of the Board of Directors for Manitoba Women in Construction. Its focus was to help empower women across the industry to build their own personal success stories.

SONIA PERRINO
Sonia Perrino is an inside sales representative for Ryerson Canada, a metal distributor servicing all facets of the construction industry. Her career highlight took place in May 2009 when she sold $1,000,000 in metal, a rare occurrence, and was recognized as a member of the Million Dollar Club.

KIM PLANCK
Kim Planck, our newest member, is a raw materials buyer at Price Industries, which is the industry leader in the manufacture of industrial and commercial heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems. Kim’s role in the company is purchasing all the sheet metal and aluminum required for the manufacture of these units.

Board of Directors for Manitoba Women in Construction. Its focus was to help empower women across the industry to build their own personal success stories. Lori Garet was a panel member and shared her success stories that were featured in the local newspaper, The Winnipeg Free Press, and were on national TV and radio. In interviews after the event, Ellowyn Nadeau represented the Winnipeg Construction Association and Manitoba Women in Construction and focused on her perspective of women entering the field of engineering. Lori Garet addressed the need to involve women, minorities and indigenous workers in the construction industry trades.

As P.E.O. builds, supports and plans for the future, our sisters in the construction industry support, plan and “build” Chapter H’s future.

— Author Betty Haese was initiated into Chapter EX, Fremont, Nebraska, in 1957. She attended Cottey College in 1958.
ELF Loans for Master’s Degrees: HELPING WOMEN FOLLOW THEIR STARS

by Mary Bormann, Educational Loan Fund Board of Trustees

Women pursue master’s degrees because new career paths develop, life circumstances change or they need to become more marketable in a competitive work force. A master’s degree closes the gender pay gap and contributes to long-term economic self-sufficiency.

The Educational Loan Fund Board of Trustees continually evaluates all aspects surrounding the use of the ELF fund. A $15,000 category for master’s degree students went into effect in October 2015 to support the need for graduate-level applicants. Loan applications increased in response. On the October 2015 ELF Statistical Comparison Report, 36.72 percent of the loans awarded were given to applicants pursuing master’s degrees. By October 2017, this number had risen to 39.70 percent. ELF applicants continue to seek master’s degrees more than any other degree in diverse fields of study.

RACHEL DAVIS
Master of Arts – University of Arkansas
Recommended by Chapter DA • Fayetteville, Arkansas

Rachel was admitted to the Ph.D. chemistry/biochemistry program at the University of Arkansas in 2017. She was awarded a teaching assistantship and a full tuition waiver. Chapter DA shared she was a National Merit Scholar, “diligent in her coursework, and received excellent evaluations.”

However, Rachel realized her passion lies in teaching and that she wanted to become a chemistry teacher. She made the difficult decision to withdraw from the Ph.D. program and pursue the Master of Arts in teaching program. As this degree had no stipend or TA duties, Rachel was faced with funding her education herself. Luckily, Chapter DA member Leslie Johnson told Rachel about the ELF loan. Chapter DA met with Rachel and the chapter supported her through the process.

Rachel followed her own star! She plans to teach high school chemistry and intends to create a classroom environment where students will feel “valued, respected and heard.”

KIRSTEN SHARPE
Master of Science – University of Minnesota
Recommended by Chapter EX • Bemidji, Minnesota

Kirsten graduated from the University of Minnesota Morris with a degree in environmental studies. While in college, she began working for the University of Minnesota West Central Research and Outreach Center. She worked as a “cow mover,” rising early in all kinds of weather, moving cows from field to field on a 4-wheeler. She discovered her true love was agriculture. Kirsten’s field of study is animal science with a focus in dairy production. During her graduate program, she will conduct research in organic milk production, sustainable agriculture and renewables. Her current research project meets the needs of today’s consumers, who expect lower carbon footprints.

Kirsten will graduate in 2019. Her future plans include a career in dairy cattle management, production and research.

Kirsten followed a star she was passionate about in her choice of the dairy industry and Chapter EX found an outstanding applicant for the ELF loan.

SHANNON TALLMAN
Master’s Degree – Middle Way Acupuncture Institute
Recommended by Chapter IM • Everett, Washington

Shannon has worked in the fitness and wellness industry for the past six years. After receiving a bachelor’s degree in psychology and a BFA in dance performance, she became certified as a Pilates instructor. She currently specializes in therapeutic movement.

When a car accident impacted her ability to work and traditional treatment didn’t help, Shannon found acupuncture brought lasting relief. Shannon is pursuing a Master’s level diploma in acupuncture. Her goal is to start an acupuncture clinic with her current employer.

Chapter IM member Linda Munson, an instructor for the Middle Way Institute, described Shannon as a “stellar student.” Chapter IM is pleased to help Shannon follow her star.
Each year, Cottey College is excited to take part in state/provincial/district conventions. This year, we sent representatives from enrollment management, institutional advancement, P.E.O. relations, alumnae relations and the President’s Office to give presentations, offer workshops or respond to questions at 18 conventions. This number of conventions does not include the many current students and alumnae who also attended and shared their experiences.

After returning to campus, I asked our representatives to share the most commonly asked questions so that we could impart the answers to readers of The P.E.O. Record.

Related to our programming is a question about **accreditation**. Cottey College is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission ([http://hlcommission.org](http://hlcommission.org)). Cottey recently completed its four-year assurance review with no follow-up reports required. The next comprehensive review is in 2022. Further, Cottey is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music ([https://nasm.arts-accredit.org](https://nasm.arts-accredit.org)).

I’m often asked about the **international trip**, and I have exciting news to share. **ALL** Cottey students now have the opportunity to attend the spring break trip, with travel and lodging paid for by the College. In the past, the trip was limited to sophomore-level students. In the spring, the Cottey College Board of Trustees approved the trip for students who transfer into Cottey as juniors and seniors, once they complete 24 hours at Cottey! Remember, the costs of these trips are not part of student tuition or fees; the costs are paid for from interest on a quasi-endowment set up by the Trustees specifically for this purpose.

Questions were asked about Cottey’s **diversity**. In the fall of 2017, almost 30 percent of Cottey’s students were either a recognized American minority (IPEDS) or an international student, with students attending from 19 different countries and over 30 states. Further, 22 percent of our faculty comes from outside the United States, thus bringing the world into our classrooms. When speaking to groups, I often relate that Cottey is a microcosm of society, representing a wide range of cultures, races and faiths.

Another commonly asked question is how individual P.E.O. members can help **refer students** to Cottey. Stephanie Grurich, newly appointed liaison between P.E.O. and Cottey admissions, states that, “While not everyone knows a college-bound woman, everyone knows someone. Certainly, those people might know a college-bound woman. Just as you might try a business on the recommendation of a friend, a young woman might investigate Cottey because someone told her about it. Just by pointing students to our website and our Admission Office, you’re giving her the opportunity to reach for something incredible.”

The availability of **financial aid** is often a source of inquiry. More good news! Beginning fall 2019, Cottey College will implement new guidelines for rewarding academic excellence. Students with a minimum composite ACT score of 21 (1060 SAT) OR a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and who enroll full-time (minimum of 12 credit hours) will be automatically eligible to receive an academic scholarship. Amounts range from $4,000-$11,500 per year and are renewable, up to four years. Implementing an “or” (in past years “and”) criterion positions Cottey to be increasingly attractive to more students who excel academically.

Thank you for believing in Cottey, the value of a liberal arts/sciences college and in women’s education. Your interest in and support of OUR college helps us stay strong and relevant.
The Program for Continuing Education’s “Have a PCE Candidate? Get Started Now” webpage on the International member website is a great resource for local chapters. Most questions regarding the application process can be answered by using the documents on this page. They have been created to help prepare both the chapter and the candidate for the online application process and posted in order from eligibility and interview through starting the online application. Visit https://members.peointernational.org/pcrecommendation.

1. Start here > PCE Policy Guidelines & Procedures: Provides chapters with information regarding the purpose of PCE, eligibility requirements, approved uses of the grant and the expected steps chapters should follow when sponsoring a candidate.

2. Interviewing the PCE Grant Candidate: Chapters are given the steps necessary to conduct a successful interview with a potential candidate. Steps include determining eligibility, scheduling, preparing and conducting the interview and following up with the candidate after the chapter vote.

3. Chapter’s Pre-Application Eligibility Worksheet: This document assists the chapter interview team to record all information the chapter will need to provide in their recommendation. Also included is important information the candidate should be made aware of regarding the recommendation process.

4. Chart to Determine Recommendation Submission Date: This is a new document chapters may use to determine when to submit their chapter recommendation. Submission dates are based on the date the term begins, providing the first and last date a chapter may submit a recommendation. Knowing these dates helps eliminate the potential of a recommendation being denied because it was submitted too early or too late.

5. Candidate’s Pre-Application Income & Expense Guide and Worksheet: Provides both the chapter and candidate a worksheet and detailed directions on completing the online “Income and Expense” form. When chapters review this worksheet during the interview process it provides the opportunity to determine the need of the grant and the amount to be requested. The applicant will also have all the information at her fingertips and help to speed up the application process.

6. How to Write the Chapter’s PCE Recommendation: Chapter recommendations are often the difference between a full and partial grant. The more the trustees learn about the applicant, the better. Using this document will assist chapters to write an effective recommendation.

7. Instructions for the Online Chapter Recommendation Form: For some applicants, time is of the essence. When a chapter takes the time to follow the detailed instructions in this document it reduces the probability of the recommendation being put on hold due to incorrect or missing information.

8. Begin Online Chapter Recommendation Form: CONGRATULATIONS! Having completed the steps above the chapter is ready to begin the application process. Make sure to use only the approved internet browsers listed. Consider asking the chapter technology chairman to help if members of the PCE committee are not able to access the online portal.

9. Publicity Authorization Form: When a chapter has received notification that their applicant has been awarded a grant the excitement of presenting the check can lead to celebrations and a lot of picture taking. Be sure to have the applicant sign this form, especially when placing pictures on Facebook or in the local newspapers.

The PCEnews, a quarterly newsletter, offers more helpful hints to local chapters. The articles often answer frequently asked questions the project supervisor has received or reviews areas of the application the trustees would like to see the chapters give more attention to. The PCEnews is posted on the “Chapter Resources for PCE” webpage.

For chapters that have taken the time to find a worthy candidate, taking advantage of these helpful resources will make the entire process pleasurable.
The P.E.O. Scholar Awards Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that 11 of the 100 Scholars for the 2018-2019 academic year have received the honor of being designated as an Endowed Scholar. The Endowed Scholar program is made possible by the generous donations of individuals and chapters who establish endowment funds in the P.E.O. Foundation directly benefiting Scholar Awards. Each of these awards is in recognition of these Scholars’ exceptional academic achievement and potential to make a difference in their field of study. All 100 Scholars received $15,000 awards.

The complete list of all 2018-2019 Scholars, with their biographies and photos, can be viewed on the Scholar Awards page on the P.E.O. International website at https://members.peointernational.org/psarecipients18-19.

### SHIMA DOWLA
Wilma Leonard Turner–Ann Marie Turner Endowed P.E.O. Scholar
- M.D./Ph.D. in public health
- University of Alabama Birmingham School of Medicine
- Nominated by Chapter AK, Birmingham, Alabama

Shima Dowla began research while she was still in high school, studying neurotransmission in ADHD. Shima then earned an A.B. magna cum laude from Dartmouth College with double majors in neuroscience and Asian/Middle Eastern Studies. Her thesis focused on the factors affecting health care decision making among residents of a Bangladeshi slum. After completing her M.D., Shima plans to practice as a pediatric endocrinologist-scientist, seeking to remediate childhood obesity and chronic metabolic disease, domestically and globally.

The Wilma Leonard Turner and Anne Marie Turner Endowed P.E.O. Scholar Award was established in 1999 to honor Wilma Leonard Turner for her many years of service. Wilma served as president of International Chapter from 1997-1999. The award is also named for her daughter Ann, who died of cancer in 2000.

### CAITLIN DOYLE
Presidential Endowed Scholar—In honor of Sue Baker
- Ph.D. in English literature and creative writing
- University of Cincinnati
- Nominated by Chapter DP, Cincinnati, Ohio

Caitlin Doyle's love of poetry was inspired by her experience growing up as a first generation Irish American immersed in songs, poems and stories from Ireland. Caitlin earned a B.A. in English literature and creative writing with distinction and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as the Thomas Wolfe Scholar. She then completed an M.F.A. in creative writing at Boston University as the George Starbuck Fellow in Poetry. Her career goals include publishing poetry collections, book reviews and essays while teaching creative writing and literature at the university level.

The P.E.O. Foundation established this Endowed award in 2002 to honor the sitting President of International Chapter. Sue Baker, the current president, resides in Ohio.

### MARY JANE DRAKE
Mary Louise Remy P.E.O. Scholar
- D.V.M. in veterinary medicine
- University of Pennsylvania
- Nominated by Chapter G, Wilmington, Delaware

Mary Jane Drake graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Richmond, with a B.S. degree in biochemistry and molecular biology. She then completed her Ph.D. in microbiology at the University of Pennsylvania. She is currently ranked first in her veterinary class at Penn, where her studies focus on food animal populations. After graduation, Mary Jane plans to continue to study food animal production systems and farmer practices with a goal of eventually writing public policy on infectious disease management in food animal populations.

The Mary Louise Remy Endowed P.E.O. Scholar Award was the first Endowed award and was established through gifts from California State Chapter in honor of Past President of International Chapter Mary Louise Remy, who presided at the Convention of International Chapter in 1991, the year that Scholar Awards was adopted as the fifth philanthropy of the P.E.O. Sisterhood.

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Natasha Hansen earned a B.A. in psychology summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Smith College, and an M.A. in clinical psychology from the University of Colorado. She has also studied at the University of Hamburg, and at University College in London. She is researching the methods used to inform mental health interventions, especially the impact of health behaviors on emotion regulation. Natasha's future plans include leading an integrated clinical research, treatment and training center that provides high quality care to underserved populations.

This award was made possible by a fund established in 2003 from the Ventura Neale Trust. Ventura was initiated into Chapter AE, Madison, Wisconsin, in 1941 and later was a member of Chapter M, Miami, Florida. P.E.O. played an important role in Ventura's life, and she generously designated P.E.O. as the sole beneficiary of this trust. Thus, she continues to help outstanding women achieve their personal and professional goals.

Ariana Huffmyer graduated with a B.S. in biology magna cum laude from Oregon State University. She is a current recipient of a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship and is a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association Ernest Hollings Scholar. Ariana is blending scientific and educational research with the goal of increased conservation of our essential and beautiful coral reef ecosystems. She is also developing educational programs to promote careers in science and to foster awareness and growth as stewards of the environment.

The Mary Louise Remy Endowed P.E.O. Scholar Award was the first Endowed award and was established through gifts from California State Chapter in honor of Past President of International Chapter Mary Louise Remy, who presided at the Convention of International Chapter in 1991, the year that Scholar Awards was adopted as the fifth philanthropy of the P.E.O. Sisterhood.

Megan Mills-Novoa completed a B.A. Phi Beta Kappa in environmental studies/conservation biology at Lewis and Clark College, and an M.A. in geography at the University of Arizona. As a Fulbright Fellow and a Luce Scholar, she studied in both Chile and Vietnam. Her doctoral research focuses on protecting the environment internationally by improving flood warning systems in Columbia and aqueduct infrastructure in Costa Rica. Megan is developing tools that will provide data to monitor and combat adverse effects of climate change.

This award was made possible by a fund established in 1997 by Arthur M. Guy in memory of his wife. Idagrace was initiated into Chapter AA, Evansville, Indiana, in 1961 and in 1970 transferred to Chapter BV, Jackson, Michigan, where she remained an active member until her death in 1995.

Emilie Novaczek graduated with a B.S. with first class honors from Dalhousie University in 2013 with a double major in environment, sustainability and society and biology. The focus of Emilie's doctoral studies is using sound for marine habitat mapping to create better maps of the seafloor and a better understanding of the organisms that live there. Emilie wants to be part of the solutions for protecting our planet's oceans, either in academia or as a federal researcher at the intersection of marine habitat mapping, conservation and policy.

This award was made possible by a generous bequest from the family of Helen G. Shull in her memory. Her son says that in the early 1900s, Helen's widowed mother decided that their very limited family resources would go toward “putting the three girls through college because the two boys would have a much better chance of developing their own careers.” The girls all became successful teachers, Helen's specialty being mathematics. She was a member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood for 48 years.
Candice Quin earned a B.S. with honors in biology and is now pursuing a Ph.D., both at the University of British Columbia. Her research focus began with a question from her pregnant sister about the advisability of taking fish oil as a supplement. Candice found conflicting clinical evidence, so she began her own study of how fish oil supplements consumed by mothers during lactation alter the microbiome and immune development of their infants. Her career goal is to establish a research program as a principal investigator at a leading-edge university.

The Annabelle B. Bush Memorial Endowed Scholar Award was established in 2006 in memory of Annabelle B. Bush by members of the Bush family. Annabelle Bush was a very dedicated and committed P.E.O. member and served the Sisterhood as the president of California State Chapter in 1982-1983.

Alexandra Sundermann is a Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude graduate of Baylor University with a B.A. in pre-med who is currently pursuing an M.D./Ph.D. in epidemiology, a rare dual-degree combination held by only five or six women across the country. Alexandra is researching the impact of early pregnancy exposure to alcohol on pregnancy loss. Her goal is to become a program director for women’s health research where she can mentor younger investigators while advocating for research initiatives to promote healthy pregnancies.

The Annabelle B. Bush Memorial Endowed Scholar Award was established in 2006 in memory of Annabelle B. Bush by members of the Bush family. Annabelle Bush was a very dedicated and committed P.E.O. member and served the Sisterhood as the president of California State Chapter in 1982-1983.

Kate Turetsky earned a B.A. at Amherst College in psychology and studio art/history of art, summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa, followed by an M.A. at Columbia University. Her dissertation explores building students’ social networks through brief, low-cost social psychological interventions to promote persistenace and success in stressful academic settings. Kate anticipates that this will help individual students, especially underrepresented students, pursue their academic and career goals. She hopes to become a professor at a liberal arts college.

This award was made possible by a fund established in 2005 to honor Susan D. Lombard and Chapter T, Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Susan served as President of Massachusetts State Chapter from 2004-2005. She was then appointed to serve at the international level, first on the P.E.O. Scholar Awards Board of Trustees and then on the Nominating Committee.

Jeanna Wieselmann earned a B.A. in child psychology, a B.S. in elementary education foundations, and an M.Ed. in elementary education at the University of Minnesota. She is researching aspects of how STEM career awareness among girls might be addressed, including the motivating effect of STEM experiences outside the classroom, gender equitable teaching practices and the effect of gender composition in student groups. Jeanna aspires to become a professor at an institution where her research can bridge the gap between educational research and practice.

This award was made possible by a generous gift from the Van Vlack Family Charitable Trust honoring the memory of their mother, Frances Van Vlack, and grandmothers, Ruth Van Vlack and Laura Runnels, who were all P.E.O. members. These women were committed to providing educational opportunities to women, particularly to women studying in the area of human behavior.
If you’re looking for a way to remember, honor and celebrate family, P.E.O. sisters or special friends who make our lives so meaningful, consider establishing a Named or Endowed P.E.O. STAR Scholarship to be awarded in 2019 for the 2019–2020 academic year.

In 2017-2018, 760 high school senior women were each awarded a $2,500 P.E.O. STAR Scholarship. Thirty-four of the STAR Scholars were matched with Named and Endowed STAR Scholarships.

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NAMED P.E.O. STAR SCHOLARSHIPS

A named P.E.O. STAR Scholarship is a one-time scholarship presented to a graduating high school senior woman who meets the P.E.O. STAR Scholarship eligibility requirements as established. Funds for this one-time $2,500 scholarship shall be made up of contributions from individuals, chapters or collective gifts.

To be awarded, the money for a named scholarship should be sent as a lump sum to the P.E.O. Executive Office by December 1, 2018.

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ENDOWED P.E.O. STAR SCHOLARSHIPS

An endowed P.E.O. STAR Scholarship shall be a designated scholarship supported by a specially-endowed fund held in the P.E.O. Foundation. The principal of this endowed fund shall provide the income for the funding of this P.E.O. STAR Scholarship.

Recipients receiving named or endowed scholarships shall be advised of this special designation when the formal announcement of P.E.O. STAR Scholarships is made. The recognition certificate shall reflect this named or endowed scholarship designation.

The P.E.O. International website offers more information about these opportunities under STAR Resources at https://members.peointernational.org/starchapterresources. Also visit the International website https://members.peointernational.org/starrecipients to learn more about these 34 STAR Scholars who were recognized in 2017–2018 with a Named or Endowed STAR Scholarship.

Presented here are the names of the 2017–2018 Named and Endowed STAR Scholars. Complete biographical information can be found on the International website.
Endowed Scholarships

Chapter EP, Houston, Texas, in honor of Chapter EP, Houston, Texas

Taylor Medina from Hockley, Texas, will attend Texas A&M University majoring in psychology with a minor in Spanish.

— Recommended by Chapter DF, Houston, Texas.

Haley Frances Schwager from Houston, Texas, will study at Stanford with a major in human biology.

— Recommended by Chapter DU, Houston, Texas.

Named Scholarships

The Pella Corporation Board of Directors in Memory of Joan Kuyper Farver’s Lifetime Support for the Advancement of Women. The individual members of the board provided sufficient funds for 10 named P.E.O. STAR Scholarships:

Vanessa Strait Constandse from Gilbert, Arizona, will study at Yale University with a major in politics and economics.

— Recommended by Chapter ES, Apache Junction, Arizona.

Kelly Kulig from Millstadt, Illinois, will study at Saint Louis University with a major in biomedical engineering.

— Recommended by Chapter KC, Belleville, Illinois.

Abbi Fitzpatrick from Cut Bank, Montana, will study at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire.

— Recommended by Chapter M, Cut Bank, Montana.

Sana Shareef from Port Saint Lucie, Florida, will study at Harvard College with possible careers as a doctor, scientist and researcher.

— Recommended by Chapter FU, Vero Beach, Florida.

Megan Hall from Santa Ana, California, will study at Stanford University with a major in biology and a minor in studio arts and her plan is to pursue an M.D./PhD. in microbiology.

— Recommended by Chapter IE, Orange, California.

Lora Wright from Verona, Missouri, will study at Oklahoma State University with a double major in agriculture communications and animal science with a minor in agricultural economics and agribusiness.

— Recommended by Chapter CN, Monett, Missouri.

Janna Herron from Denton, Texas, will study at Texas Women’s University in Denton majoring in music therapy with a double minor in psychology and English.

— Recommended by Chapter U, Denton, Texas.

Ashley Stamboulian from Robbinsville, New Jersey, will study at Villanova University School of Business preparing for a career in finance.

— Recommended by Chapter AK, East Brunswick, New Jersey.

Bergen Mauerhan from Makato, Kansas, will attend the University of Kansas with a major in premedical biochemistry.

— Recommended by Chapter CN, Mankato, Kansas.

Saige Peterson from Sedalia, Missouri, will study at Liberty University in Virginia studying entrepreneurship and digital marketing.

— Recommended by Chapter LO, Sedalia, Missouri.

Chapter NR, San Diego, California, the Aina E. Summerfelt Trust DT provided sufficient funds for four named STAR Scholarships:

Rose Hong from San Diego, California, will study at Harvard with emphasis in bioengineering or applied mathematics, with an interest in tissue engineering and tissue regeneration.

— Recommended by Chapter TZ, San Diego, California.

Nikita Krishnan from Poway, California, will study at the University of California at Berkeley majoring in business and economics.

— Recommended by Chapter F-PS, Del Mar, California.

Danielle Pigeon from Poway, California, will study at the University of California Los Angeles in either engineering or political science with a future emphasis on law school.

— Recommended by Chapter RM, San Diego, California.

Kate Weis from Encinitas, California, will study at Boise State University in the Honors College majoring in psychology.

— Recommended by Chapter VI, Carlsbad, California.

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Chapter FB, Boca Raton, Florida, in memory of Sharon Smith Mayo
Sage Albert from Boca Raton, Florida, will study human geography at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
— Recommended by Chapter AA, West Palm Beach, Florida.

Chapter LQ, San Pedro, California, in honor of Chapter LQ, San Pedro, California
Colleen Clauss from Gilbert, Arizona, will study exploratory health and life sciences at Arizona State University.
— Recommended by Chapter LQ, San Pedro, California.

Chapter BI, Yuma, Arizona, in honor of Debbie Hovatter
Katherine M. Compton from Yuma, Arizona, will study at Arizona State University majoring in global politics and international business.
— Recommended by Chapter AG, Yuma, Arizona.

Chapter QV, Newport Beach, California, in honor of Evelyn Nelson, Past State President
Rachel Khorsad from Beverly Hills, California, will study at the University of Southern California with a major in health promotion at the Keck School of Medicine and a minor in psychology.
— Recommended by Chapter GT, Beverly Hills, California.

Chapter AJ, Carson City, Nevada, in honor of Chapter AJ, Carson City, Nevada
Jenna McKee from Las Vegas, Nevada, will study at Pace University in New York City with an emphasis in child and developmental psychology.
— Recommended by Chapter V, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Chapter BN, Sewickley, Pennsylvania, in honor of Chapter BN, Sewickley, Pennsylvania
Natalie Napolitano from Leetsdale, Pennsylvania, will study at the University of Pennsylvania majoring in nursing and health care management, dual degrees in the Wharton School of Business.
— Recommended by Chapter BN, Sewickley, Pennsylvania.

Chapter IG, Vail, Colorado, in honor of Chapter IG, Vail, Colorado
Ashley Potthoff from Thornton, Colorado, will study at the University of Denver with emphasis on dual Master’s degrees in psychology and criminal justice.
— Recommended by Chapter HX, Westminster, Colorado.

Chapter IO, Mexico, Missouri, in honor of Mila Lowry, Past State President, Missouri
Julie Rothermich from Mexico, Missouri, will study at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, with a major in entertainment business management.
— Recommended by Chapter HD, Mexico, Missouri.

Chapter CL, Bentonville, Arkansas, in honor of Chapter CL, Bentonville, Arkansas
Serena Puang from Rogers, Arkansas, will study at Yale University with a major in English and special education policy.
— Recommended by Chapter U, Rogers, Arkansas.

Please visit the International website to read more about the 34 Named and Endowed P.E.O. STAR Scholars listed here. Past and present STAR Scholarship recipients are being featured on social media and chapters are encouraged to send the latest news about their P.E.O. STAR Scholars to star@peodsm.org.
Chapter CZ, Abilene, Kansas, in honor of the Wendell and Nancy Gugler Charitable Giving Fund, Abilene, Kansas

Maly Sears from Adrian, Missouri, will study at Kansas State University and plans to major in landscape architecture.

— Recommended by Chapter GY, Abilene, Kansas.

Chapter EU, Chicago, Illinois, in memory of Wilma L. McLain, Chapter EU, Chicago, Illinois

Shannon Steines from Arlington Heights, Illinois, will study at the University of Notre Dame with a double major in Spanish and biology with a pre-med curriculum.

— Recommended by Chapter LG, Arlington Heights, Illinois.

Chapter CK, Little Rock, Arkansas, in honor of Melissa Anthony

Mary Kathryn Strickland from Little Rock, Arkansas, will study at the University of Arkansas Fayetteville with a major in international studies continuing into law school.

— Recommended by Chapter X, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

Chapter IC, Lakeway, Texas, in memory of Maryleeann Bryan

Kate Sumner from Lakeway, Texas, will study at the University of Oklahoma majoring in finance.

— Recommended by Chapter IC, Lakeway, Texas.

Chapter SA, Sacramento, California, in honor of Chapter SA, Sacramento, California

Layla Jimenez-Villalobos from Modesto, California, will study at Duke University with a double major in public policy and global health.

— Recommended by Chapter MJ, Modesto, California.

Chapter ED, Sarasota, Florida, in honor of Chapter ED, Sarasota, Florida

Jennifer White from Nokomis, Florida, will study at the University of Florida with an exploratory major in both the healthcare field and philanthropy through business.

— Recommended by Chapter BM, Sarasota, Florida.

Chapter NO, Hayward, California, in honor of Chapter NO, Hayward, California

Anna Wadhwa from Fremont, California, has been accepted to Rutgers Medical School in the Integrated Undergraduate and Medical Degree program in preparation to be a family physician.

— Recommended by Chapter NO, Hayward, California.

Chapter AY, Toledo, Ohio, in honor of Chapter AY, Toledo, Ohio

Karis C. Wilson from Jenera, Ohio, will study at the University of Cincinnati to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing.

— Recommended by Chapter DM, Lima Ohio.

Chapter EM, Scottsdale, Arizona, in honor of Chapter EM, Scottsdale, Arizona

Rachel Zoneraich from Scottsdale, Arizona, will study at the University of Pennsylvania in the Management and Technology Program, Wharton School of Business and will study computer science engineering in the School of Engineering and Applied Science.

— Recommended by Chapter BL, Scottsdale, Arizona.

Let your STAR shine!
QUESTION: What do the following P.E.O. sisters have in common?

- Donna is frustrated that she never quite reaches her New Year’s resolutions.
- Sarah wants to give a program to her chapter that will help the members recognize the importance of self-care.
- Bonnie has a relationship challenge at work and would love some practical guidance.
- Nancy is going to give a presentation at the Rotary Club and has stage jitters.
- Barbara is a newly elected reciprocity president and she is wondering how to work with the other representatives who seem to have such different viewpoints than her own.

ANSWER: As P.E.O.s, they all have a place to turn for practical assistance in all these situations (and more)! All they need to do is to click on the Leadership tab on the P.E.O. International website or go to www.peoleadership.org.

The P.E.O. Leadership Development Initiative has been working steadily since 2014 to build a library of resources to enrich our sisters in their leadership skills. The modules are designed to help all members gain confidence and effectiveness not only within their service to P.E.O., but also in other areas of their lives, including their own personal growth, family, workplace and community organizations.

How can you know which module will best address your needs? A quick glance will help you narrow it down by the competency areas of Productivity, Officer/Committee/Board Development, Inspiration, Healthy Relationships, Communications and General Leadership. Within an area, the clickable title of each resource leads to a clear description of its contents. The listing also reveals the recommended audience and the approximate time it will take. All the pieces are included (such as a video, PowerPoint, handouts, etc.) to use for presenting it to others or for reviewing it yourself.

Donna chose to work through several of the modules under Productivity, including “Goals, Strategies & Tactics” and the workshop “P.E.O. the SMARTI Way” to help her specifically define her goals and learn strategies for success!

Sarah found two resources for her chapter program under Inspiration. She is going to lead her sisters through the “Personal Self Care Assessment” and then together do the short “Take a Break: Cottey Exercise Module.”

Bonnie looked in the Healthy Relationships area and is excited to try the strategies she learned with her challenging work relationship. She received practical guidance and insights watching “Talking about Differences: Finding Common Ground” (which includes a great tip sheet to print out), and “Resolving Conflict Using P.E.O. Virtues.”

Nancy feels prepared for her Rotary presentation now that she has reviewed several items in the Communications section, including “Top 10 Tips for Captivating Presentations” and “How Can I Present Fearlessly?”

Barbara learned so much about appreciating and working with those who have different approaches and strengths from her review of the workshop “Personal Leadership Styles,” found under General Leadership. She is going to suggest that the reciprocity leaders go through it together at an upcoming reciprocity meeting.

The P.E.O. Leadership Development Initiative encourages YOU to explore these fantastic resources for yourself and check back often for new ones. What a wonderful perk of membership that can empower and enrich both our P.E.O. and personal lives!

LEADERSHIP TIP

Strong leaders don’t need to know all the answers themselves and can be very effective by utilizing the resources already available within their organization.
The closing session of Convention of International Chapter is always a time of anticipation as the newly installed president begins her opening remarks. The audience intently listens to the words delivered and the direction the president is going to lead for the next biennium. Sue Baker did not disappoint with her remarks and selection of her theme, “With Gratitude and Grace...LEAD Forward!” She challenged us to continue to embrace the heart goals of 2–0–1–9.

As you know, 2–0–1 are membership goals but did you find the “9” puzzling at first? We don’t have nine Founders, we don’t have nine projects, we aren’t celebrating an anniversary with a nine in it. To understand the meaning of the 9, we needed to look at things differently and think outside the box. The 9 looks like the numeral we’ve used all our lives, but that would be using only the math section of our brain. It isn’t a 9 at all, it is a g. The 9 used is not a stiff Arabic numeral but, with the assistance of graphic technology, it morphs into a manuscript g.

Think about how this “9” opens the heart of our P.E.O. sisters and defines our Sisterhood in unique and loving ways. This is gratitude, this is grace, this is US.

Gratitude is synonymous with appreciation and thankfulness. If you were to express your gratitude to a P.E.O. sister, who would be on your “gratitude list?” Is there a person you can identify that has made a personal commitment to support your chapter? How did she accomplish that? Giving the gift of gratitude to someone in your chapter encourages and renews their P.E.O. spirit. Recognizing their commitment, be it quiet or exuberant, is a P.E.O. vitality heart warmer. Observing its benefits, we become more aware of the gentle and yet powerful gift of gratitude.

Take a few minutes at a chapter meeting or at home and write a note of gratitude to a chapter sister, a sister who is especially caring, a sister who has worked silently without notice or anyone who might need a boost of gratitude. Other ways to show your gratitude could include a small gift card to her favorite coffee shop or a couple of sprigs of flowers from your garden. By sharing your gratitude, you will vitalize a sister’s heart.

Grace exemplifies what P.E.O. does so well as we reflect kindness and charity. P.E.O. women are known for giving more than receiving and exhibiting a loving concern for others. Each issue of our magazine is packed with examples of grace through our projects. Think of the chapters who have had successful or even unsuccessful project candidates. They have extended and/or continued providing a loving concern for these women with kindness, support and encouragement. As chapter sisters follow their candidate’s progress and cheer them as they achieve, the candidate rarely forgets the kindness and support of a sponsoring chapter... grace in action.

Instances of grace are also found close to home. Supporting sisters through personal crisis is what true sisters do. A loving spirit displayed for a woman or sister in deep water is a hallmark of grace. And in those instances when personal difficulties crop up within a chapter, grace displayed by the sisters melds the chapter together in a common bond where all feel safe and valued. Privately paying dues for a sister in a financial pinch, bringing a simple dinner to a sister harried by life or being a listener to a lonely sister; ALL are mantles of grace.

P.E.O. is a community of purpose. The world needs us, our communities need us, our scholars need us and our sisters need us. Let us all be known as generous when giving the gifts of gratitude and grace. And we know, as you give, the blessings will likely be returned to you.

With Gratitude and Grace...LEAD Forward
October is **LET’S GO FIND THE OTHERS** Month

Can you imagine the excitement that our Founders felt when they decided to create P.E.O.? It’s written that Franc Roads immediately said, “Let’s go find the others!” She couldn’t wait to include others in their plans.

We want to recapture our Founders’ enthusiasm with **Let’s Go Find the Others** month. This is a great opportunity to introduce friends and family to our Sisterhood. Who do you know who would embrace the values of P.E.O. and support our mission?

More information about helpful resources are available on the P.E.O. member website at [https://members.peointernational.org/resource/lets-go-find-others-month](https://members.peointernational.org/resource/lets-go-find-others-month).

Follow **P.E.O. International** on Social Media

Facebook: PEO International

Twitter: @PEOSisterhood

Instagram: @peointernational

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

Use the hashtags **#peointernational** and **#peosisterhood**
New Presidents* of State, Provincial and District (S/P/D) Chapters were installed at S/P/D conventions this past spring. These leaders help shape the future of our Sisterhood and have already dedicated years of service to P.E.O. In this issue of The Record we will meet the remaining 18 committed women who are your S/P/D Chapter Presidents.

*Presidents from the blue highlighted areas are featured in this issue.
L J Van Belkum
Colorado
Transform and Take Flight!

L J (Napier) Van Belkum was born and raised in Kentucky. She is a first-generation P.E.O.; initiated into Chapter CB, Warrensburg, Missouri, in 1993, when she was an Air Force officer stationed at Whiteman Air Force Base. The gift of P.E.O. was waiting at every assignment thereafter, providing abundant opportunities to grow and change. In 2009, she became a charter member of Chapter JA, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

In 2006, after 23 years and 15 moves, L J retired from the United States Air Force. She remained in Colorado Springs as a civil servant and retired again in 2016. Her first year following retirement two has been spent with her husband, renovating a house. So far, retirement has been grand!

L J earned a B.A. in elementary education; an Ed.M. with a concentration in counseling, an M.S. in the operational art and science of war; and a Ph.D. in industrial/organizational psychology. Change management is an abiding interest—evolution and growth mean life to organizations as well as to individuals.

L J and Jim married in 1985 and have been blessed with three fantastic children. In 2017, their daughter Hannah (JA, Colorado Springs, Colorado) graduated with an Associate in Fine Arts degree from Cottey College.

Laura McFarland
District of Columbia
P.E.O.—All things grow with love

Laura McFarland grew up in Bethesda, Maryland, attending the family picnics of Chapter E, Washington, D.C., where her mother, grandmother and great aunt were active members. After graduating from UCLA, Laura returned to D.C. and was initiated into Chapter U, D.C., in 1985. It took a few years before she realized just how amazing this group her mom “made” her join actually is, supporting so many women in ways both big and small.

Laura has spent her professional career in advertising sales for media companies and now manages the business development team at NACUBO—the National Association of College & University Business Officers, where she oversees corporate partner relationships. Prior to that she led the sales activities for Inside Higher Ed and The Chronicle of Higher Education, the premier daily publications covering higher education.

Laura and her husband, Dennis Wamsted, a freelance journalist covering energy and environmental issues, enjoy traveling, spending time outdoors and exploring D.C.’s neighborhoods. They are active volunteers with their church, where they run the kitchen at a monthly community assistance program. Their daughter, Annemarie, starts law school in August, and their son, Timmy, will graduate college in December.

Chris Hubert
Florida
The P.E.O. Trail, A Path to Education

Chris Hubert’s P.E.O. journey began in 1979 when she was initiated into Chapter FA, Plano, Texas. A move sent her to Minnesota, where she transferred into Chapter EC in New Hope. Twenty-two years later, Chris moved to Florida and found her current home in Chapter GT, Marco Island.

She has served in every office at the local level, has been a state project chair several times and served as the 2013 convention treasurer. Chris has attended almost every state convention and five international conventions.

Chris was a stay-at-home mom with her three children until the youngest entered kindergarten. She began working in the local school district and held various support staff positions until the youngest graduated high school. Her daughter and two sons are now married and have blessed her with seven grandchildren with an eighth on the way.

For the past 14 years, Chris worked as the on-site manager at a large condominium complex. Now retired, she works as a bookkeeper.

Chris loves music; she has been a member of several choral groups and community theater productions. Chris has a goal to visit all 58 National Parks in the United States and has checked 52 of them off her list! She also enjoys watching pro football and college basketball.
Kate Raun  
Iowa

The Gift of P.E.O.

When initiated into her mom’s chapter after high school, Kate Raun didn’t plan on P.E.O. becoming a focal point in her life. After a couple of moves and an invitation to a chapter meeting, she began to explore the Sisterhood, its projects, virtues and relationships. With the warm welcome received it became easy to volunteer and support P.E.O. Kate held consent to start Chapter OR in Norwalk, her current chapter.

Kate has degrees in business from Saint Ambrose University in Davenport (B.A.) and Iowa State University in Ames (M.S.). During her career in agriculture, chapter meetings and time with sisters became a welcomed change from weekday obligations. Currently, ownership in Yarn Junction Co LLC is her business involvement.

Her family includes her sons and their wives, Adam Frieberg and Heidi Haverkamp, Luke and Sarah Frieberg, three sisters, two brothers, her dad, Alan Raun, and mom, Dotty Raun, who joined Chapter Eternal this year. When not on P.E.O. adventures or at Yarn Junction Co, one may find her spending time with family and friends, knitting, at horse shows, church activities or volunteering at Anawim Housing.

Deb Moore grew up in Des Plaines, Illinois, and was initiated into her mother’s chapter, Chapter HL, Des Plaines, with her sister, Julie Maday, 40 years ago. The initiation took place in her home with many of her neighbors serving as chapter officers. She didn’t realize at the time what an effect that would have on her life.

While attending Western Illinois University, she met her BIL, Ron, and moved from the Chicago suburbs to the middle of a corn field. Chapter N, Roseville, was there to welcome her into the community. Deb has served in every local chapter office except chaplain. She also served as assistant chairman of the 2014 Illinois State Convention.

With a Bachelor of Science in Education, Deb began teaching fifth grade in Roseville. After the birth of their twin sons, she stayed home to raise their three sons, Steven, Michael and Brian. She returned to teach elementary gifted classes until her retirement and now farms with BIL, Ron, and son Michael raising soybeans, corn and beef cattle. She also volunteers with many community and agricultural organizations on the local and state level.

Deb is active in her church, enjoys playing bells, gardening and traveling.

Rita Nienstedt  
Kansas

P.E.O. It’s Magical

Rita Nienstedt has been a P.E.O. since 1985, when she was initiated into Chapter FB, Stockton, Kansas, where she was a high school librarian. These wonderful sisters gave Rita a gift as P.E.O. opened doors for Rita as she and her husband moved around the state. She has been a member in Chapter AO, Concordia; Chapter FU, Fort Scott, and currently is a member of Chapter AU, Ottawa.

Rita grew up on a farm near Howard, Kansas. She received a B.S.E. in home economics from Emporia State University and a Master of Science in secondary education with an emphasis in library science from Fort Hays State University. She taught for 34 years. The Nienstedts now live in Ottawa and Rita works for Ransom Memorial Health.

Rita and her husband, Richard, are active volunteers. They were adult sponsors for the youth group at church and have participated in Relay for Life. Rita has taught youth cooking lessons during the summer. Her other volunteer interests include Habitat for Humanity and working to end domestic violence.

Rita and Richard met in college where they both served on student government. They have three adult children, Marshall, Robyn and Aimee, along with six grandchildren with another one on the way. Rita enjoys spending time with the family in addition to reading, quilting and gardening.
Danel Burch
Missouri

P.E.O., A Parade of Stars

Danel Burch was born and raised in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. She graduated from the University of Missouri at Kansas City with a degree in dental hygiene and psychology. Her husband, Doug, is a dentist and they have practiced together in Neosho, Missouri, for almost 40 years.

Danel was initiated into Chapter BT, Neosho, Missouri, in 1989. She has served in various offices in her local chapter, and while serving as president she had the pleasure of initiating her three daughters (Danica, Devon and Darci). Danel has two granddaughters who hopefully will be P.E.O.s someday! She served as ELF State Chairman for two years and was then appointed to the Missouri Outreach Fund (a Missouri-only project) for five years. After acting as Missouri State convention chairman for three years, she joined the board in 2014.

Doug and Danel love to turkey hunt. They’ve hunted in some pretty cool places together (the extinct volcano Mauna Kea on the Big Island of Hawaii, the north island of New Zealand, the Black Hills of South Dakota and the pine forests of Virginia, just to name a few). Danel also likes to visit her children/grandchildren, travel, read, canoe and snow ski.

Karen H. Leftwich
Montana

Dare to Dream

Karen Leftwich was born in Florida and grew up in the “Silicon Prairie” of Texas before moving to Montana, where she has lived for the past 20 years. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in computer science from Texas A&M University and a Master of Science degree in computer science from the University of Texas at Dallas. Karen worked as a software engineer and project manager developing and upgrading communications equipment and antenna control systems for military applications. After moving to Montana, she tutored computer science students at Flathead Valley Community College, worked several years for a small technology start-up company in Creston, Montana, and provided webmaster services for several local companies and organizations.

She was initiated into Chapter BR, Whitefish, Montana, in 2005, and quickly took on leadership roles. Karen served her state as membership chairman and regional representative and as webmaster. Karen designs and maintains the online convention registration system for Montana State Chapter and trains convention treasurers and registration committees in its use.

Karen loves to sing and combines her love of architecture and travel by taking annual pilgrimages to tour Frank Lloyd Wright buildings with her twin sister, Kathryn, including overseas visits to Japan and Europe. She also enjoys solving crossword puzzles and dining al fresco.

Nancy Kennedy Wheeler
Nebraska

Cherish the Past and Embrace the Future of P.E.O.

Nancy Wheeler is a third-generation P.E.O. initiated into Chapter AU, Peru, Nebraska, in 1974. She followed her mother (Barbara Kennedy) and grandmother (Ruth Kennedy, Past President, Nebraska State Chapter), both in Chapter Eternal, into Chapter AU, Nebraska.

Nancy earned her Registered Nursing diploma from Bishop Clarkson School of Nursing in 1977 and her Bachelor of Science in nursing from Nebraska Wesleyan University in 2012. She now works as a rural home health nurse with Tabitha Health Care Services, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Nancy and her husband, Steve, have been married for 37 years. They have two sons and a daughter, Thomas, David and Stephanie (Chapter AU, Nebraska). Stephanie is married to Brandon Butterfield. David is married to Azalia (Chapter AU, Nebraska) and they are parents of grandson, Emmett.

In her spare time, Nancy enjoys caring for her multiple dogs and cats, cooking/baking, gardening, sewing, music, art, reading, being outdoors and camping. Steve and Nancy spend their vacations traveling the United States in Nancy’s Mustang. Nancy is active in her church, book club, Daughters of the American Revolution, Order of the Eastern Star and Boy Scouts. She is a huge Nebraska Cornhusker fan.
SUSANNA WATLING
New York

Celebrate New York State
P.E.O.—Reaching for the Stars since 1899

Susanna Watling’s P.E.O. roots were cultivated in Chapter BG, Springfield, Missouri, where her mother and grandmother—Nancy Watling and Erma Hasler—were initiated in the 1940s. The family moved to central California in 1967, when Nancy and Erma transferred to OQ, Turlock, California, and where Susanna was initiated in 1972. While Nancy and Erma have passed into Chapter Eternal, Susanna’s sisters-in-law and niece are now members of OQ, Turlock, California. Susanna enjoyed membership in Chapters GT, Beverly Hills, California; H, Carson City, Nevada, and AT, Flagstaff, Arizona, before moving to central New York in 2002, when she was welcomed into BW, Utica, New York.

After completing music degrees at UCLA, Susanna married Robert Verkuyl in 1981 and moved to Carson City, Nevada. In 1989 she entered a doctoral program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Music, and was honored with a grant for dissertation research from the P.E.O. Scholar Awards—thanks to the support from Chapter OQ, Turlock, California.

Now retired, Susanna has more time to support local music institutions, read and explore New York’s state and national parks.

ELLEN FOX
North Carolina

P.E.O.—A Legacy of Love in a Gift from the Heart

Ellen Fox is a third-generation P.E.O., and was initiated into her mother’s chapter, AM, Winchester, Virginia, while in college. Ellen is following in her mother’s footsteps—Betty Jackson is a Past President of Virginia State Chapter.

Ellen and her husband, Rick, met in Richmond, Virginia, and career opportunities took them to Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and North Carolina. During her 36 years in P.E.O., Ellen has had the pleasure of being a member of five different chapters and she has held most local chapter offices as well as serving on several state committees.

Ellen graduated from the University of Richmond with a degree in accounting and economics. She recently retired from a 34-year career of management positions in both the manufacturing and financial services industries.

She is currently a member of Chapter R, Charlotte, North Carolina, attends Myers Park United Methodist Church and serves on the Finance Committee of the Ballantyne Country Club. Ellen and Rick have two wonderful adult children: their son, Richard, lives in Hockessin, Delaware, and their daughter, Katherine, in Houston, Texas (Chapter HH). Ellen is an avid knitter and enjoys traveling, boating and spending time with her family.

KYLIE SMITH
Ohio

Light tomorrow with today!

Kylie Smith is a member of Chapter CU, in Worthington, Ohio. A native of Honeoye Falls in western New York, she is a graduate of Simpson College in Iowa and has served as the Archivist/Museum Director for the Kappa Kappa Gamma Foundation in Columbus, Ohio, since 2001.

Kylie and her husband, Jeff, live with two cats and a dog in their restored 1914 home. When they aren’t traveling, Kylie and Jeff have tried to make their own wine and love kayaking on Ohio’s rivers.

An active volunteer in her community, Kylie has served as the chairman of the Legacy and Endowment Committee for the Broad Street United Methodist Church and is a member of the Stewardship Campaign committee. Kylie is also a long distance adviser for the Kappa Kappa Gamma Chapter at Colgate University in Hamilton, New York.

Kylie has held several offices in Chapter CU and Central Ohio Reciprocity, and served as Scholar Awards Chairman for Ohio. An exciting honor was the opportunity to initiate her mother, Carolyn Towers, into Chapter CU in 2012.

When the duties of a state officer become overwhelming, her biggest stress relief is practicing on Big Red, the accordion Jeff gave her for Christmas!
Sonia Lamoreaux
Oregon
Celebrating 150 Years of Star Power

Sonia Lamoreaux grew up in the Midwest. During her high school years, her family moved to Mill Valley, California. Sonia was initiated into Chapter PJ, Napa Valley, California, in 1969.

After graduating from California State University Chico, Sonia taught elementary school in Newton, Massachusetts. Upon returning to California, Sonia served as trustee of Town School for Boys in San Francisco and Marin Academy and as a member of the Junior League of San Francisco. Sonia is a devoted member of the Lutheran Church, sings in the choir and has served on the church council. In her 50s, Sonia returned to school to earn her master’s degree in American history at Wesleyan University, Connecticut. She culminated her master’s program by writing a book on the history of California Indians.

Sonia has three children—Julie (husband Darrell Petray) Anne (husband Scott Anderson) and Brian (fiancé Sara Ridgway)—and three beautiful granddaughters, Jennifer, Katie and Vivian. Daughter Julie attended Cottey College and Sonia initiated her two daughters into the Sisterhood, making them fourth-generation P.E.O.s.

Sonia and her husband, Douglas Knudsen, live in Black Butte Ranch, Oregon. In her free time, Sonia enjoys time with family and friends, cooking, kayaking, reading and needlepoint design. Her cookbook collection is renowned.

Ellen Endslow
Pennsylvania
Stargazers Empowering Excellence

Ellen Endslow grew up on a farm in East Donegal Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. She earned her bachelor’s degree in art history and studio art from Oberlin College in Ohio, spent a semester in London and completed museum internships in New York City. She earned her master’s degree in historical administration from Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois, then went on to work as an assistant collections manager in Buffalo, New York, and as a curator at the Fairfield Historical Society in Fairfield, Connecticut.

Currently, Ellen is the director of collections/curator at Chester County Historical Society, West Chester, Pennsylvania. She serves as the professional network council chair for the American Alliance of Museums and belongs to the American Association for State and Local History.

Ellen was initiated into Chapter, BP, Downingtown, Pennsylvania, in 2001. She enjoys a good book, small world connections, choral singing, staying in touch with friends, using P.E.O. B&Bs, learning new things, visiting museums, taking walks, a bracing cup of tea, all sorts of cuisines, comfort food and real ice cream.

Valerie Mickelson
South Dakota
P.E.O. Sisters on an All-Star Team

Valerie Mickelson was initiated into and a charter member of Chapter CZ, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, in 2008. Her mother, mother-in-law and both of her sister-in-laws are members of her chapter. Valerie is a physical therapist, working on-call for Sanford as her schedule allows. She graduated from Selby Area High School in 1993. She received her B.S. in biology from the University of South Dakota in 1997, and her master’s in physical therapy from the University of Minnesota in 2001.

Valerie and her husband of 20 years, David, live in Sioux Falls where David is the President and CEO of Graham Tire Companies. They are the proud parents of Maxwell, 15, and Katherine, 13, as well as Henry the dog, age 6. Valerie is an active volunteer at her children’s schools and at the First United Methodist Church in Sioux Falls. She enjoys yoga, cycling, running, Pilates, reading, snow skiing, water skiing, stand-up paddle boarding and spending time with family and friends at their cabin at Lake Poinsett.
Rhesa Janice began her P.E.O. journey in 1991 when she was initiated into Chapter Z, Staten Island, New York. She was introduced to the New York City chapters by her biological sister, Cathy Weaver. Cathy knew Rhesa was moving to Staten Island and would need friends. She was in Chapter Z for less than a year before she moved to Northern Virginia, where she transferred to Chapter AZ, Herndon.

Rhesa is married to Bob and has three children—one son, Joe, and two four-legged kids, Jynx (cat) and Jett (dog). She has a B.S. in chemistry from Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, Nebraska, and an M.S. in forensic sciences from University of New Haven, West Haven, Connecticut. Her career began as a forensic chemist where she analyzed substances for the presence of drugs, reported her findings and testified in court. She transitioned from chemistry to digital evidence in 2006. She was employed as the assistant laboratory director of the U.S. Postal Inspection Services, Forensic Laboratory Services for seven years and the Drug Enforcement Administration for 23 years. She retired right before the convention where she was elected.

Rhesa spends her free time computer gaming, reading, making jam, doing needlework and traveling.

Rachel Kristianson was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, and has lived in Derry, New Hampshire; Seattle, Washington and in Chewelah, Washington, since 1972.

Rachel has always belonged to Chapter BS, Chewelah, Washington, where she was initiated in 1977. She is a third-generation P.E.O.


Rachel earned a B.A. in political science from the University of Washington, Seattle, an M.Ed, in counseling from Whitworth University and teaching credentials from Gonzaga University.

Now retired, Rachel worked as a counselor in private practice and as a middle school counselor and teacher from 1983 through 2008.

Rachel is active in her church, the Chewelah United Church of Christ, and enjoys visiting with friends and family, traveling, reading, exercise, golf, spending time with grandchildren and watching sports.

Dee Robertson is a member of Chapter F, Greybull, Wyoming, and was initiated in 2000. She has served as all officers but guard in her chapter.

Dee is a special education teacher at Greybull High School and loves working with teenagers. Why teenagers? In part because they keep her feeling young and on-her-game with technology and because she loves having an impact on the lives of young adults. Dee semi-­retired from teaching while she raised her children but jumped back into teaching when they reached middle school/high school age. Being a stay-at-home mom is something that she wouldn't trade for anything.

Dee resides in Greybull with her husband, Bill, a soon-to-be retired State of Wyoming game warden. They have two sons—Elliott is a broadcast journalist/film editor and Caleb is studying to be a history teacher.

Dee loves creating art and quilts. She is active in youth ministries with her church and is sought after as a small group leader and speaker.
P.E.O.s IN THE spotlight

**CAROLL VAN DEVENTER**

Caroll Van Deventer, H, Pawnee, Oklahoma, received the prestigious Directors Award from the Professional Photographers of America (PPA) at the Imaging USA Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. The Directors Award is given in recognition for outstanding service to photography performed through association service.

Caroll began her career in 1964 as a color artist; her husband, Bob, was a photographer. In 1981, Caroll and Bob opened their own studio in Cleveland, Oklahoma. Caroll has been an active member of the Professional Photographers of Oklahoma (PPO) since 1964. She has served on the board of directors since 1994 and was elected president in 2006. She has worked as chairperson on the print committee for both PPO and the Southwest District Professional Photographers Association. At the national level, Caroll has served as art/tech chairperson for PPA and was an affiliated art/tech judge.

Caroll has been a champion of public protection. She understands the vulnerability inherent in client populations, who often are not able to identify violations of ethics and/or competence. She believes in the necessity of regulatory oversight to protect some of the most vulnerable among us.

**CONNIE PURDUM**

Connie Purdum, AZ, Creston, Iowa, and her BIL, Dennis, received a prestigious award from the Pope. The Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice medal is one of the highest honors given to a lay person by the Holy Father. Bishop Pates conferred the award at Saint Ambrose Cathedral in Des Moines. Connie and Dennis are members of the Holy Spirit Parish in Creston and continually contribute their time and financial resources to the town of Creston in order to better the community.

**MARIANN BURNETTI-ATWELL**

Mariann Burnetti-Atwell, MQ, Jefferson City, Missouri, has been named Chief Executive Officer of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB). As CEO, Mariann will lead ASPPB in its mission to support its member jurisdictions in fulfilling their mandate of public protection, and its vision to promote consistent standards in regulation that ensure the competent practice of psychology.

Mariann completed her PsyD from Forest Institute of Professional Psychology in Springfield, Missouri. She currently serves as Senior Vice President of Behavioral Health Operations for Corizon Health where she provides program leadership for city, county and state correctional systems throughout the nation.

Mariann has been a champion of public protection. She understands the vulnerability inherent in client populations, who often are not able to identify violations of ethics and/or competence. She believes in the necessity of regulatory oversight to protect some of the most vulnerable among us.

**SUE CARLSON**

Sue Carlson, AB, Jamestown, North Dakota, received the National Farmers Union’s Meritorious Service Award to American Agriculture and to World Agriculture for her longtime work advocating for family farm agriculture and women farmers. Sue served as the president of Wisconsin Farmers Union, the first woman to do so, for seven years and played a key role in developing the Women’s Committee of the World Farmers Organisation, based in Rome. She has raised awareness about the essential role of women in agriculture around the world.

**TAMMI KIRCHER**

Tammi Kircher, IG, Keokuk, Iowa, was elected to Ducks Unlimited’s national board of directors during the organization’s 81st annual national convention held recently in Indianapolis. A passionate supporter and volunteer for more than three decades, Tammi is the Iowa State Council Chair, immediate past State Chair and a member of the Public Policy Committee. Beyond Ducks Unlimited, Tammi continues her fight to protect some of our most threatened habitats having served on the Iowa Natural Resource Commission. She also works diligently to fund the Natural Resources Trust Fund to secure dedicated, sustainable conservation funding for generations to come.
Chapter CA ★ Valentine, Nebraska

Organized: May 2, 1918
Celebrated: May 5, 2018

First row, from the left: Joy Miles, Ann Krueger, Sheila Carr, Tammy Muller, Karen Howard, Kim Jeffers, Janelle Johnson, Gina Fischer
Second row: Karen Butler, Marian Davenport, Venetta Arganbright, Mary Henderson, Jeanne Blackford, Ginny Lee, Mary Van Winkle
Third row: Lynda Ravenscroft, Karen Andrus, JoAnn Kerr, Danita Kime

Chapter AU ★ Glen Ellyn, Illinois

Organized: March 21, 1918
Celebrated: March 21, 2018

First row, from the left: Pat Mitchell, Laurie Gornik, Georgia Koch, Bobbi Laing, Heather Ebl, Debbie Helley
Second row: Carol Marsch, Betty Hodge, Dianna Saul, Mary Demling, Beth Olin, Wini Dyer, Nancy Djangi
Third row: Sue Mylander, Alice Cook, Leslie Petro, Karen Gorz, Nancy Davis, Kathy Becker, Suzanne Johnson, Dorothy Hess, Betsy Hiller, Ginni Kent, Emily Nelson, Joiene Murphy, Jo Ayo
Fourth row: Alicia Sitley, Gail Ellenbaum, Aline Cox, Erin O’Connor, Kathy Gilligan, Anna Ball, Heather Buccola, Jane Rio, Suzanne Carty, Ginny Reynolds, Jenny DeLuna, Bev Johnson, Heidi McAndrew, Laurie Woods, Jeanne VanStrydonck

Chapter CZ ★ Kirksville, Missouri

Organized: April 16, 1918
Celebrated: April 10, 2018

First row, from the left: Elaine Novinger, Julie Mikolajczak, Ginny Schneider, Nettie Carpenter, Mary Giovannini, Anita Towns, Myra Baiaotto, Joyce Sells, Pat Kurtzeman
Second row: Suzie Snow, Beverly Kitts, Judy Eubanks, Diana Reynolds, Pat Lymar, Sara Stock, Becky Osborn, Nancy Krueger, Lisa Ahrens
Third row: Sandy Collop, Judie Ellis, Sue Mason, Betty Clark, Tami Ruebel, Dora Belle Clark, Janet Hanley, Dianthe Cable, Pennie Schneider, Alexandra Miller, Alice Fast, Duretta Newman, Betsy Hoscheid, Sandra Fleak, Denise Brunner, Colleen Primer, Beverly Hemeyer
Fourth row: Bonnie Niebruegge, Marla Gramling, Anne Beard, Odessa Ofstad, Shirley Riley

Chapter AT ★ Ordway, Colorado

Organized: April 12, 1918
Celebrated: April 7, 2018

First row, from the left: Cheryl Reeves, Connie Johnson, Dana Gibson
Second row: Virginia Sharon, Carol Mumm, Nancy Wright, Twana Klinkerman, Connie Baker
Third row: Debbie Delaney, Karol Carter, Michelle Tomky, Karen Tomky, Kathy Siegfried, Shari Fox, Sheila Thruston
Sisters in Chapter AA, Idaho Falls, Idaho, were excited to welcome members from other local chapters and guests to their annual summer luncheon. As they entered, the sisters and guests immediately saw large Sasquatch table centerpieces. The speaker, Laura Krantz, who is the daughter of chapter AA projects and scholarship chairman, Louise Krantz, seized diners’ attention as she talked about Sasquatch nests, sightings and scientific DNA studies of Bigfoot in the Pacific Northwest. Laura, who is a former editor and producer for NPR’s Morning and Weekend Edition radio programs, is releasing a nine-part podcast series this fall entitled “Wild Thing.” Laura has also written for Smithsonian, Outside, Popular Science and Newsweek magazines. The audience listened intently to Laura’s findings that were both scientifically believable but at the same time hard to accept. Everyone will be looking in the dark parts of the woods during their next hike and checking the ground for LARGE footprints.

The 2018 Scholarship recipients were also honored at the luncheon. During the past three years, Chapter AA has awarded two PCE grants, one ELF loan, two STAR scholarships and three local scholarships.

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Members of Chapter BG, Portland, Oregon, used the power of music to honor women of achievement in various fields in their community with a fundraising concert.

BG sisters carefully chose five honorees as well as local musicians to honor each of the five women. The musical participants volunteered their time as did two well-known presenters. The women honored included a sculptor, the concertmaster of the Oregon Symphony, a pediatric hematologist-oncologist, the executive director of YWCA and the founder and publisher of Artslandia, a local performing arts magazine. Musicians included vocalists, pianists, instrumentalists and a youth choral group. They performed in individual sets to present music specially selected to recognize each of the women of distinction.

Advanced tickets were sold by BG members and a large, enthusiastic crowd gathered at the Old Church Concert Hall in downtown Portland. An attractive program with an original design included information on each honoree and musician and a section on the origin and purpose of P.E.O. The occasion provided an opportunity to introduce P.E.O. to a wide audience. The president of Chapter BG opened the concert by sharing the mission of P.E.O., noting that all proceeds would go towards P.E.O. scholarships for women!

Following the ceremony, attendees mingled with the honorees and musicians while enjoying light refreshments provided by the chapter. This was the chapter’s most successful fund raiser to date, raising more than $4,000 for P.E.O. projects!

Women representing nine Native American tribes presented a program featuring their tribal regalia at a meeting of Chapter CP, Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Each woman modeled clothing reflecting her tribal affiliation, explained its significance, and discussed its fabrication. Every item of apparel was handmade personally or by a friend or member of the tribe of the wearer. Items displayed included dresses, skirts, blouses, aprons and shawls. Many were intricately decorated with beadwork, embroidery, fringe, conchos and ribbons.

Unlike the clothing, which linked the models to specific tribes, the jewelry used to accessorize their regalia, including earrings, pendants, bracelets and necklaces, seemed to span tribal divisions. The beadwork on many of the pieces was intricate and required hours of labor.

Perhaps the most interesting ensemble was an embroidered deerskin dress and moccasins specially made for one of the women by a Kiowa friend more than 60 years ago and worn by three generations of her family. Since the garment was extremely heavy, she elected to display it rather than wear it.

In addition to 19 members of Chapter CP, several dozen members of the community also enjoyed the presentation.
P.E.O. authors

SHARON (THETFORD) ERVIN

Sharon (Thetford) Ervin, AT, McAlester, Oklahoma, wrote “MEMORY.” It is her 12th romantic suspense novel. Ten years after their high school graduation, David “Mac” McCann is giving classmate Laurel Dubois a ride home on a rainy night when they see a woman striding on the shoulder of the highway bypass. Mac pulls over to offer her a ride. The walker, Memory Smith, another high school classmate, is drenched and her bottom lip appears to be swollen and cut. She apologizes for her condition and takes the ride. Several hours later, Mac hears that Memory has been run over on the highway, her mangled body unrecognizable, except for her name on a tag in the sweater on the body. At that moment, however, Mac knows exactly where Memory Smith is, and she is not dead!

Sharon has been a P.E.O. since 1972. She is a former newspaper reporter with a degree in journalism from the University of Oklahoma. She is married and the mother of four grown children. Sharon works half-days as probate clerk with her husband, Kevin, have two daughters who are currently pursuing undergraduate degrees.

VALERIE BARNES LIPSCOMB

Valerie Barnes Lipscomb, IF, Bradenton, Florida, wrote “Performing Age in Modern Drama.” This academic monograph is the first book to examine age across the modern and contemporary dramatic canon, from Arthur Miller and Tennessee Williams to Paula Vogel and Doug Wright. The common admonition “act your age” provides the springboard for the study, which contends that issues of age and performance crystallize in the theatre. All ages across the life course are interpreted as performance both on page and on stage, including professional productions and senior-theater groups.

MARY ELIZABETH FURNALD

Mary Elizabeth Furnald, O, Montgomery, Alabama, compiled and edited “To Educate a Woman” about Georgia scholarship funds established in the P.E.O. Foundation. Since 1985, almost 50 Georgia funds have been placed in the P.E.O. Foundation to provide money to educate Georgia women. All of these funds honored either a person or persons or a chapter. There is a story behind each fund and an inspiration for each scholarship.

ALYCIA CHRISTINE (SEARS)

Alycia Christine (Sears), HE, Rockwall, Texas, wrote “Dreamdrifter,” a thrilling sequel in her fantasy fiction series “Skinshifter.” Both books feature epic adventure set in a rich fantasy world full of intriguing characters and incredible vistas. Katja’s skinshifting abilities are becoming more powerful, and more dangerous. A rare madness is overtaking the werewolf’s mind, making her more savage and unpredictable with each full moon. As war rages on the Sylvan Continent, Katja and her allies must seek out the sacred Keystones and use their power against the deadwalkers.

Alycia grew up near Lubbock, Texas, and fell in love with fantasy and science fiction books when her father first read them to her at age 10. Her love of writing blossomed during her time at Texas A&M University. She has been a P.E.O. for 10 years.

KATE FINNEY

Kate Finney, DO, Plymouth, Indiana, wrote “Worship With Kids,” a book of 26 children’s worship stories, designed to make preparation simple, so parents, teachers and church staff can put all of their energy into the actual adventure of leading kid’s worship. The book evolved from over 20 years of worship stories that she has shared with her home church. They talk about timeless topics like how you hear God, envy and what the word “omniscient” means in a fun, tangible way. Each lesson speaks to multiple ages, takes 15-20 minutes to prepare and uses props that can be found around your house. The stories can be conversation starters with children at home or a self-contained children’s sermon to be used on Sunday morning.

Kate writes from her home in Plymouth, Indiana, where she lives with her husband and son. When she is not writing, she can be found with her nose in a good book or somewhere in her garden.

PAMELA S. WIGHT

Pamela S. Wight, E, Concord, Massachusetts, tells the story of two sweet sparrows in her illustrated children’s book, “Birds of Paradise” (ages three and up). This tale follows Bert, a brash risk-taker, and Bessie, fearful of all the dangers that lurk in the trees and on the ground. The two develop a friendship after Bert is bullied for his recklessness while Bessie gains courage when encouraging her new friend. “Birds of Paradise” is a Finalist in the Children’s Picture Book – Hardcover Fiction category of the 2018 International Book Awards.

Pam dedicated this book to her mother, Marcia S. Wight, who first introduced Pam to P.E.O. in the mid-1970s. They’ve been sisters ever since. Marcia is a long-time member in Chapter H, Wilmington, Delaware.
Pam’s biggest supporter has been her mom as she published her two books of women’s fiction (“The Right Wrong Man” and “Twin Desires”) and now a children’s picture book. Pam also publishes a weekly blog on daily living.

JO REED

Jo Reed, DL, Salina, Kansas, wrote “Sense and Nonsense,” a compilation of her columns of the same title which appeared in the Salina Journal over several years. Her intent was to provide a respite from front page news and to connect with readers through commonly-shared life experiences. The columns cover a wide range of topics including animals, families, grammar usage, holidays and growing older. Her observations of life generated a loyal following of readers.

MARNIE O. MAMMINGA


Marnie’s essays chronicle a wide range of small-but-significant moments, including the anxiety of taking a teenager out for driving lessons, the nostalgic pleasure of watching the Cubs at Wrigley Field, the heartache of moving an aging parent into a nursing home and the quiet bliss of sitting on a cabin’s porch under a starry North Woods sky.

Her sharply observed vignettes of Midwestern life chart our shared passages from childhood to adulthood, working life to retirement, parenthood to grandparenthood and everything in between.

Marnie has been a professional essayist and features writer for more than 20 years. Her work has appeared in numerous Chicken Soup for the Soul books as well as in the Chicago Tribune, Christian Science Monitor, Reader’s Digest, Detroit Free Press Magazine, Lake Superior Magazine and The Writer.

MAXINE FERRIS

Maxine Ferris, BB, East Lansing, Michigan, wrote “Let Love Happen,” her first religious romance. It is the story of Professor Mark Ian Mahoney, who seeks to rebuild his life and that of his young children after the tragic death of his wife. Challenged by demanding work as a plant scientist, he seeks to find balance in his life via active membership in a small church and a growing friendship with the Montessori Directress, Margaret Gerber, who plays an important role in the education of his twins. Their strong faith in God, coupled with their dedication to family and community service form the basis for developing a long-term relationship.

Maxine, a retired professor and Director of Outreach Communications at Michigan State University, is a graduate of the College of Wooster and earned a Master’s Degree at the Ohio State University and doctorate from MSU. She and her husband have two adult sons and two grandchildren.

CHERYL COOPER FURLONG

Cheryl Cooper Furlong, AK, Louisville, Kentucky, co-authored “Norton Memorial Infirmary School of Nursing: History of Excellence.” The Norton Memorial Infirmary School of Nursing—the first nursing school in Kentucky—opened its doors in Louisville in 1886. Over the next 90 years, more than 1,500 young people prepared for careers as registered nurses. This book, compiled by four Norton graduates, takes the reader through major historical events, medical advances, vast cultural changes and the evolution of the school through the closing in 1976 and the evolution of the teaching of nursing at the hospital today via a doctorate of nursing program affiliated with the University of Kentucky.

Cheryl graduated from Norton Memorial Infirmary School of Nursing in 1970. She is married to Terry and has two sons, two daughters-in-laws and four grandchildren.

JEANNE BLANCHET

Jeanne Blanchet, CC, Sun City, Arizona, wrote “Man at the Cross Road,” a historical fiction novel. It tells the story of Marcus Casca, the exactor mortis who headed the death squad that crucified Jesus. After serving in the army, Marcus returns to Rome, where he commits violent crimes. His life is altered when, after fainting on the street from a fever, he is rescued by a Christian Jewish couple. He meets prominent figures in the early “Way” movement. While acting as a government informer, the believers’ message of love, forgiveness, and salvation works a change in his heart and Marcus finds himself at the crossroads and must decide once and for all whether he believes. One choice saves his life, the other his soul. “Man at the Cross Roads” won the IBPA Benjamin Franklin silver award and Reader Views’ best historical fiction award.

Jeanne is a retired university educator and lecturer, and recipient of the Albert Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award.

LORIEN FOOTE

Lorien Foote, FZ, College Station, Texas, wrote “The Yankee Plague: Escaped Union Prisoners and the Collapse of the Confederacy,” her fourth book about the American Civil War. During the last winter of the Civil War, nearly 3,000 Union prisoners escaped form Confederate prisons in the Carolinas and fled toward Union army lines. Black and white southerners fed, hid and guided the fugitives. “The Yankee Plague” tells the dramatic story of four escape parties and the southerners they encounter. It is a sweeping portrait of the Confederacy’s downfall and an intimate picture of individual suffering, sacrifice and heroism.

Lorien received a P.E.O. Scholar Award in 1997. The scholarship she received funded travel to archives across the country as she researched her dissertation. She says, “P.E.O. has been foundational to my work as a writer of history.”
WHERE IN THE WORLD

Katie Schaffer, A, Bangor, Maine, in Liverpool, England

Shawn Horvath, HO, Denver, Colorado and Donna Harward, VP, Redlands, California at Vernal Falls in Yosemite National Park

Ann Brookshire, IE, Tyler, Texas, in Liberia, Costa Rica

Chapter MN, Muscatine, Iowa, at the birthplace of P.E.O.—Old Main on the Iowa Wesleyan campus in Mount Pleasant, Iowa

Debi Fritz, L, Sigourney, Iowa, on a medical mission trip in Haiti

Amy Sanders, CB, Amarillo, Texas, in Dettifoss, Iceland

Anne Spilman, BW, Pasco, Washington, at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles

Cyrena Hight, AD, Lake Charles, Louisiana, in Pamplona, Spain during the Running of the Bulls
Where in the world is The Record?

Donna Daniels, AB, Salem, Oregon, in the Trollheimen mountain range in Norway

Ann Kimble, BT, Missoula, Montana, Yvonne Thomas and Meg Dooley, S, Corvallis, Oregon, at the top of the Tatares Mountains in Poland

Donna Daniels, AB, Salem, Oregon, in the Trollheimen mountain range in Norway

Ann Kimble, BT, Missoula, Montana, Yvonne Thomas and Meg Dooley, S, Corvallis, Oregon, at the top of the Tatares Mountains in Poland

Jan Fry, JD, Waukee, Iowa; Krista Packard, DF, Holland, Michigan; Liz Anderson, LQ, Ankeny, Iowa, in Budapest, Hungary

Becky Grundman, CV, Corning, Iowa, in Bangkok, Thailand

Dana Russell-Brown, IU, Oregon, Illinois, in Perth, Australia

Trish Strazar, EX, Medina, Ohio, in Bloemfontein, South Africa with Joyce the cheetah

Patti Sanborn, AJ, Park City, Utah, at Catherine’s Palace in Saint Petersburg, Russia

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

Pack the latest issue of The P.E.O. Record when you travel! Snap some pics and send them in—you could be featured in a future issue of the magazine or on our Facebook page or Instagram feed.
An Elevator Speech for BILs

by Albert Leffler, Guest Editor, The P.E.O. Record

One of the traditions at many P.E.O. state conventions is having the spouse of the outgoing president give a short speech. This was the case at the New York state P.E.O. convention in Binghamton, New York, June 2, 2018, when Marcia Thompson Frohman wrapped up her time as New York State President and her husband, Rev. Roderic P. Frohman, said a few words:

I understand from television ads that the 1968 rock musical “Hair” is making a comeback on television this coming fall. Back when I had hair, I saw the musical and remember many of the tunes including the famous one which began with the words, “LBJ took the IRT down to 4th Street USA. When he got there, what did he see? The youth of America on LSD.” It occurred to me as I was watching this ad that it really applied to me and to other BILs attending this convention. So, I revised the acronyms to make them fit this context. FYI: “NYT” is the New York Thruway. So, here goes:

“The BIL’s took the NYT down to Binghamton, USA. When they got there, what did they see? P.E.O.’s talking about PSPs, and PCEs, and PSAs, and IPSs, ELF’s, and STARS, all in orbit around Cottey located on the planet of NevaYda.” Yeah, I know, it lacks a bit of poetic meter.

To you BILs who are first-timers to this convention: your spouses are high on acronyms. You are experiencing the acrimonia (sic.) of your BIL rookie year. Don’t worry, after a few years it will all seem as common as baseball acronyms, you know, RBIs, BBs, SOs, SACs and ERAs.

I have had a couple of years to do some thinking about tonight’s speech on what P.E.O. really means and I began thinking. P.E.O. really stands for “Perfecting Educational Opportunity.” You see, all you BILs here tonight, this is a lot more than “Poppa’s Evening Out” or “Pondering Eleemosynary Organizations.” This is about “Perfecting Educational Opportunity,” specifically for women who, despite increased educational and economic opportunities in my lifetime: Still earn, according to the Institute for Women’s Policy Research, 82 percent of what men do. Or further, as The Economist reported in February, at the end of 2017, among the 29 developed countries of the world, American women are ranked #19 on the “glass ceiling index.” In terms of the gender education gap of the same 29 nations, women’s educational attainment in the United States ranks 15th. Slightly above average. We GOTTA do better than that.

So my BIL friends, when 20 or so women gather in your living room, they are dealing with some very serious gender gap issues in America. You see, our spouses in the Philanthropic Educational Organization are not so much involved in an organization, but in a movement which will celebrate its 150th anniversary next year.

These are the women who at some time in their lives have been inspired by their mothers and their grandmothers OR who have experienced hitting the glass ceiling. As a result of that inspiration and/or that collision, these women have, since 1907, in five different financial assistance funds raised over $321 million for 105,000 recipients. That’s some very serious money for the future of our daughters and granddaughters.

So, my BIL friends, especially you new guys, know this: You are entering a story which began long before we were born and will continue long after we are gone. Therefore, tonight I want to help you with your P.E.O. elevator speech. The next time you’re in a conversation over a cup of coffee at your synagogue, your mosque, your church or beer at the 19th hole, and the subject gets around to your spouse’s involvement in P.E.O., here’s what I want you to say: “P.E.O.? It stands for Perfecting Educational Opportunity for women at the rate of five and a half million dollars a year.” And then you stop and wait for the reaction. And, after a few seconds of silence, and if your friend is a little bit slow on the uptake, you could simply ask, “Do you have a daughter or a granddaughter that needs financial help with her education? Well it’s about time they get some.”

Albert Leffler is married to P.E.O. Kathy Leffler, BA, Scottsdale, Arizona
Send BIL submissions to Albert Leffler at albertleffler@gmail.com or 4251 E Shangri-la Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85028-2917
ITEMS FOR sale

Members may view all items for sale at https://members.peointernational.org/itemsforsale
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5 Things to Do for Your Computer This Fall

by Lucy Thoms, Digital Communication Specialist

Our computers do a lot for us on a daily basis, but they can be frustrating when they are running sub-optimally. Here are some things you can do to improve your computer’s performance and improve your experience using it.

1. Update Your Software and Programs

Technology companies are always working to improve their products, and software updates improve your experience without having to buy new hardware. However, these updates often pop up at inopportune moments, and it’s easy to dismiss them and say you’ll do them later. Take some time one day to check if there are any updates available for your computer’s operating system, your internet browsers and any other programs you use regularly and install them. This will help programs run more efficiently and fix security vulnerabilities.

2. Check Your PDF Reader Settings

Many documents on the P.E.O. International websites (and many other websites) are available as PDFs, short for Portable Document Format. Long known to be one of the most widely accessible document formats, PDFs are used to present documents in a reliable and visually universal manner. We make most of our documents available as PDFs so they can be viewed similarly through different browsers and on different devices.

Find out how your computer and your chosen internet browser open PDFs. For example, many Internet Explorer users experience a blank white page when they try to open a file, which can be prevented by changing your settings to open PDFs within the browser instead of sending them to your downloads folder. Do some research on how you’d like files to open. Another good step is to use a common PDF reader – Adobe’s PDF reader is compatible with most devices and browsers.

3. Clean Up Your Files

Our computers can be a little like junk drawers – full of things we think we need to keep but really have no use. A good cleanout can go a long way! You can manually go through your computer, or find programs that will do it for you. Either way, eliminating unnecessary files, documents, plugins and programs will open up space and increase your computer’s speed.

4. See Which Programs Are Running on Startup

Does it feel like your computer takes a long time to start? Check to see if there are programs that automatically launch when you start your computer, and take the steps to prevent them from doing so. Depending on the kind of computer you use, you can either do this through individual programs or through your device’s control panel or settings.

5. Back Up the Files Most Important to You

We all have photos and files that we would hate to lose. Storing them in a second location is a smart step to ensure that they aren’t completely lost if something goes wrong with your computer. Use a cloud-based storage solution or a hard-drive – whatever makes the most sense for you.
**Bed & Breakfast Listing Available Online**

This online listing provides the most up-to-date information and can be printed in its entirety or by specific locations. It is available 24/7 on the P.E.O. member website at [https://members.peointernational.org/bedandbreakfast](https://members.peointernational.org/bedandbreakfast). If you have questions about the P.E.O. Bed & Breakfast program contact commassist@peodsm.org or call 515–255–3153.

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**100% P.E.O. Point of Pride!**

P.E.O. members should be very proud of the fact that our P.E.O. projects based in Des Moines are all self-sustaining. All administrative expenses are paid by investment income, meaning 100 percent of all contributions go directly to project recipients! Thank you for your support of our International Chapter projects—every dollar counts!

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**Important Reminder for Introduction of a Woman Who Is Not P.E.O. Online Form**

If you are planning to submit an Introduction of a Woman form using our newly automated process on [www.peointernational.org](http://www.peointernational.org), pay close attention when you enter the contact information for the woman you are introducing. If your auto form is turned on in your browser, the field for state/province and zip code may automatically update to match your location. For example, if you live in North Carolina and are introducing someone who lives in Illinois, auto form may automatically update the state field to North Carolina instead of Illinois. Please make sure to check all information and manually override anything that isn’t correct before you hit the “submit” button.

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**The P.E.O. Record on Tape/CD**

Please contact Anne Vaeth, 11321 Craig, Overland Park, Kansas 66210, chapterdoofmissouri@gmail.com to receive the magazine on tape or CD. This is a free service by Chapter DO, Kansas City, Missouri, for our visually impaired sisters.

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**Local Chapter Credit/Debit Cards**

Debit cards and credit cards are not to be issued or held using the name or tax ID number of a local chapter. All disbursements of a local chapter are to be approved by chapter vote prior to payment. The treasurer shall pay all bills of the chapter by check. Cards that are automatically issued in conjunction with a bank account should not be used and should be destroyed.

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**Out of the Heart Historical Book**

“Out of the Heart,” authored by Stella Clapp, was published in 1969, in honor of the 100th anniversary of P.E.O. An updated 2018 version of this history book is available on the P.E.O. International Member Website under Resources/Local Chapter Member/P.E.O. History. An erratum, also available for download, lists all of the corrections identified throughout the last 50 years. Enjoy!

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**Supporting Cottey Students**

Your Cottey chairman will have wonderful ideas on how to support your Cottey students! The Adopt-A-Student and Adopt-A-Suite programs are coordinated by each state/province/district. Most Cottey Chairmen are listed on their S/P/D websites. Contact your Cottey Chairman to find out more about these programs!

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**Visit Cottey College**

Come see your college! Golden Keys are eager to greet our visitors. These Cottey College student volunteers give tours to prospective students and their guests, alumnae, friends of the College and P.E.O.s. Golden Key is an honorary society of selected students who serve as official college ambassadors. If you schedule a tour during the school year, the Golden Keys will be your guides. They love to share their stories and their college! Tours may be scheduled online at [cottey.edu/peo/campus-tours](http://cottey.edu/peo/campus-tours) or by calling the Office of P.E.O. Relations at Cottey College at 417–667–8181.
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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<th>Date address effective</th>
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Name

Email address

Street or box address

City  
State/Province/District  
ZIP/Postal code

The Program for Continuing Education celebrates 45 YEARS in 2018!

The PCE trustees encourage chapters to commemorate this birthday by giving a one-time donation of $3,000.

- Awarded to a worthy recipient as a Named Grant in honor of the chapter
  - Can be designated in honor/memory of an individual/group
  - Donations must be given free of restrictions
- Chapters recognized for their donation with a certificate at their 2019 S/P/D Convention

From 1973 to June 30, 2018, PCE has awarded $56,974,883 in grants to 47,237 recipients

THANK YOU for helping us reach the goal of 45 grants for 45 years and... Funding grants today... for a brighter tomorrow!