Thank you!
## Officers of INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Maria T. Baseggio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Vice President</td>
<td>Beth Ledbetter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Vice President</td>
<td>Sue Baker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizer</td>
<td>Brenda J. Atchison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recording Secretary</td>
<td>Patricia Brolin-Ribi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Standing Appointments Administrative Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Jackie Matt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:ExecDir@peodsm.org">ExecDir@peodsm.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Finance/Treasurer</td>
<td>Kathy A. Soppe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:ksoppe@peodsm.org">ksoppe@peodsm.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Communications/Historian</td>
<td>Joyce C. Perkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jperkins@peodsm.org">jperkins@peodsm.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The administrative staff has offices at the P.E.O. Executive Office.

### Cottey College

- President, Judy Robinson Rogers, Ph.D., 1000 West Austin Blvd., Nevada, MO 64772

### Boards of Trustees and Standing Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board</th>
<th>Chairman</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cottey College</td>
<td>Janet Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Greg Hoffman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kathleen Wysong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chauncey E. Brummer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Janet M. Hansen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kathy A. Leffler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peggy Bottorf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mathilda Hatfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gary S. Cox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sandra J. Laney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christine A. Scheuneman</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund

| Chairman                        | Cathy Allen          |
|                                 | Paula Rueb           |
|                                 | Marilyn Book         |
|                                 | Joyce Victor         |
|                                 | Patricia Piro        |

#### P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship Fund

| Chairman                        | Linda Spence         |
|                                 | Glynda Samford       |
|                                 | Deborah Taylor       |

#### P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education

| Chairman                        | Teri S. Atchison     |
|                                 | Lucinda Jensen       |
|                                 | (Carol) Jean Wyble   |

#### P.E.O. Scholar Awards

| Chairman                        | Linda Davidson       |
|                                 | Kathryn Bayne        |
|                                 | Andrea Wade          |

#### P.E.O. STAR Scholarship

| Chairman                        | Ann Davidson         |
|                                 | Eleanor Huey         |
|                                 | Susan Luscomb        |

### P.E.O. Foundation

- Chairman, Barbara Legge
- Jo Ann Fettermann
- Mary Elliott

### Finance Committee

- Chairman, Alix Smith
- Lou Ireland
- Jennifer Heiss

### Audit Committee

- Chairman, Alix Smith
- Lou Ireland
- Jennifer Heiss

### Study and Research Committee

- Chairman, Leann Drullinger
- Vice Chairman, Libby Stucky
- Susan Holman
- Jeanette Mooney
- Kathryn Ebert
- Susan Mitchell

### Nominating Committee

- Chairman, Kathie Herkelmann
- Susan Howard
- Elizabeth McFarland
- Barbara Rosi
- Susan Santoli

### Regional Membership Representatives:

- Jane Attaway
- Ellen Knox
- Sandy Booth
- Debora Soutar
- Barbara Burgess
- Cathy Moss

### To Reach P.E.O.

- Mail: P.E.O. Executive Office, 3700 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50312-2899
- Phone: 515-255-3153
- Fax: 515-255-3820
- Web: peointernational.org (Go to Members Login, enter username and password, then click Contact Us.)

### To Reach Cottey College

- Mail: 1000 W Austin Blvd., Nevada, Missouri 64772-2790
- Phone: 417-667-8181
- Fax: 417-667-8103
- Email: peorelations@cottey.edu
- Web: cottey.edu

### To Reach the P.E.O. Record or Submit Material:

- Becky Frazier, Editor

- Mail: 3700 Grand Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50312
- Phone: 515-255-3153
- Fax: 515-255-3820
- Email: bfrazier@peodsm.org

Layout and design of The P.E.O. Record by Amy Tingstrom, Associate Editor
“A Rising Tide Lifts All Boats”

Although the originator of this quote is John F. Kennedy, I will never forget when Dr. Judy Rogers, president of Cottey College, mentioned this quote in a discussion with the Executive Board of International Chapter as considerations for Cottey’s Defining Moment campaign were in their infancy. I suspect she mentioned this quote as a reminder that, not only do P.E.O.s step up to a challenge, we have a history of exceeding challenges. Once again we proved this point by surpassing our goal for the Defining Moment campaign by approximately 15 percent. Thank you for supporting our college with such magnitude!

I remember this point also being discussed when the executive board was considering the addition of our sixth philanthropic project—P.E.O. STAR Scholarship. We saw the development of this new project as a “win – win.” STAR provides scholarships for high school graduating senior women. These young women are also excellent candidates for enrollment at Cottey College when we reach out to them early in their college selection process.

What’s interesting is that this quote from JFK has proven to be true overall for P.E.O. Since 2009 when STAR became an official project and the Defining Moment Campaign began, total contributions to our other financial assistance philanthropic projects (ELF, IPS, PCE and PSA) have increased by an average of nearly 8 percent per year and the number of women we’ve assisted each year continues to increase. These facts are truly remarkable! Few organizations have achieved such continuous growth in philanthropic support. I hope you realize how much your unwavering support is appreciated!

We have an opportunity now to leverage this “rising tide” by introducing more young women to our college for potential enrollment and by continuing to find more women who need our financial assistance. P.E.O.s can also experience this “rising tide” by taking time to get to know more about our project recipients and Cottey students/alumnae in consideration of potential membership in our sisterhood.

I’m sure every member who has heard our project recipients and Cottey students speak at conventions would agree that the passion and appreciation they express for our sisterhood is heartwarming. I’ve often heard our recipients and Cottey students mention how remarkable P.E.O. is and that they think it would be special to be a part of our organization.

While I realize P.E.O. isn’t for everyone, I also realize there are many recipients of our financial support and many Cottey alumnae who share our values and would likely welcome the opportunity to give back as a P.E.O. member, if invited. It’s wonderful to read about those project recipients and Cottey alumnae who have been given the gift of P.E.O. So, how can we make this happen more often?

I’m curious . . . does your chapter invite your recipients and Cottey alumnae to your social activities so all of you can get to know each other better? What a fun way for them to meet more of your chapter members and also for your members to get to know them beyond their academic goals and achievements. As you become more acquainted over time, you’ll be able to assess whether to proceed with our membership process by extending an invitation for membership to them.

Could your “Power of 1” actually be doubled? Perhaps your “1” of finding an eligible candidate for our financial assistance or a student for enrollment at Cottey College could open the door for another “1”—that of offering the gift of P.E.O. to one of these women.

So, I ask you . . . Do you know what your “1” is?

Maria T. Baseggio,
President, International Chapter
May–June
The P.E.O. Record Vol. 126 No. 3

BIL Corner with Albert Leffler: State Conventions and BILs
Trisha Dixon Serves Her Country and P.E.O. by Margaret Passalacqua
Building a Bridge to India by Sue A. Martin
Born to Sing by Mary Carrick
Arkansas Chapter CE finds Serendipity by Tina Mills
Visit the P.E.O. International Website
From Project Recipient to Treasured P.E.O. Sister by Sandy Booth

Special FEATURES
P.E.O. Welcomes New Executive Director Jackie Matt
An Open and Personal Letter to the P.E.O. Membership by Anne Seiler Pettygrove
Cotey Campaign Builds a Bridge to the Future by Steve Reed
“Doctor of Fight Songs” Helps Out the P.E.O. and Cottey College, Too by Chuck Offenburger

Gallery of PRESIDENTS
Betty Smith, Alabama • Julie Gaddy, Arkansas • Carolyn J. Escherich, Connecticut • Jennifer Mitchell, Florida • Patricia F. Calmes, Georgia • Sara Sprouse, Maryland • Francie Bachman, Tennessee • Susan Penrod, Texas • Gayle Lichti, Utah

In every ISSUE
President’s Message—“A Rising Tide Lifts All Boats” by Maria Baseggio
About P.E.O.
Your Letters
Message from the Editor by Becky Frazier
Award Winning Ideas
P.E.O. Authors
P.E.O.s in the Spotlight
New Chapters
Centennial Chapters
Items for Sale
Tech Tip
To The Point

P.E.O. PHILANTHROPIES AND FOUNDATION
P.E.O. Foundation—Empowering Women Through Education
ELF—Wanted: Chapter Recommendations by Paula Rueb
Cottey College—Reflections: A Message from the Cottey President by Judy Robinson Rogers, Ph.D.
IPS—IPS is Helping a Dream Come True by Deborah H. Taylor

The P.E.O. Record (ISSN 0746-5130) is published bimonthly by the P.E.O. Sisterhood, 3700 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50312-2899. Periodical class postage paid at Des Moines, Iowa, and at all additional mailing offices. Subscription price is $5.00 per year. Single copies are $1.00. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The P.E.O. Record, 3700 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50312-2899.
Printed in USA.
Canada Publications Mail Agreement No. 40586518.
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to IMEX, P.O. Box 4332, Station Rd., Toronto, ON M5W 3J4.

Submission of material to The P.E.O. Record is your consent to the right to edit and publish it either all or in part in the magazine or on the website. The content matter may or may not reflect the opinions of the Sisterhood. Complete submission guidelines appear on the “Members Only” section of P.E.O.’s official website, peointernational.org. The P.E.O. Record welcomes members’ submissions to the address on the inside front cover.
P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) is passionate about its mission:

promoting educational opportunities for women. Our sisterhood proudly makes a difference in women’s lives with six philanthropies that include Cottey College, a women’s college with two- and selected four-year programs, 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.

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 peointernational.org. A reprint of this page is available on the website under PROJECTS/PHILANTHROPIES.
A Special RSVP
My daughter Anna Bozard, AI, Salem, Virginia, has been a Peyton Manning fan all her life, so when it came time to send out invitations for her wedding, he was definitely on her guest list. She sent an invitation to Peyton using the address for the stadium on the Denver Broncos’ website and thought there was maybe a 25 percent chance she’d get a response.

Five weeks after the card was due and three weeks after the wedding, his response arrived in our mailbox. Peyton had filled out the RSVP card, checked the box that said “regretfully decline,” added “Best wishes” and signed his name, along with his No. 18.

Anna was so shocked and excited and said this just confirmed her idea of Peyton as a kindhearted generous person. The story of Peyton’s gesture to Anna went viral—it showed up on news feeds all over the United States and even in the United Kingdom. Anna plans on keeping the RSVP card in a nice frame.

Carol White, AI, Salem, Virginia

Fox Run P.E.O. Group
I missed my hometown. I replied, “I miss my friends and my P.E.O. chapter but I am enjoying living here.” Two of the ladies at the table, Phyllis Hertler and Barbara McCuiston, spoke up and said, “I am a P.E.O! Let’s have lunch together sometime.”

From this casual remark seven years ago, we now have a Fox Run P.E.O. group that meets once a month. We have 30 P.E.O.s representing 20 different chapters. In a large retirement community, the P.E.O. bond of sisterhood is a wonderful connection to an immediate group of friends. All of this happened because one person spoke up and said, “I am a P.E.O.”

Virginia Gardner, JF, Saint Joseph, Missouri

Gratitude for P.E.O.’s Support
In 2011, while serving as vice president of the Northeast District chapter (NEDC), my vision became compromised. As I drove home from a New Hampshire reciprocity meeting, I thought it had gotten dark early; the shadows off the mountains were closing in on me. I could barely see out of one eye. Within a few days, the central vision in that eye was gone. A few weeks later, I lost central vision in my other eye.

Doctors had varying diagnosis, but no treatments. Months later I was diagnosed with Leber’s Disease, a rare condition that presents as optic atrophy with a severe and sudden decrease in central vision with no known treatment or cure. After this, I began to question how effective I could be on the NEDC board. I tried to resign, but my P.E.O. sisters wouldn’t let me! They not only supported me, they expected me to persevere! I had to learn to ask for help, which was difficult at first, but of course everyone was willing to do whatever they could. Together my P.E.O. sisters strategized and helped me carry out my duties.

Since successfully presiding at the NEDC convention, I have served as president for an initiation in Chapter A, New Hampshire (I memorized my part), attended New Hampshire and Vermont reciprocity meetings and traveled to International Convention in Dallas as a member of the NEDC delegation. None of this would have been possible without the love and support of my P.E.O. sisters and BIL Dick Brackett. Their faith in me kept me going and inspired me not to give up.

Linda Brackett, past president, Northeast District Chapter
P.E.O. Welcomes New Executive Director

Jackie Matt

The executive board is pleased to announce that Jackie Matt (pronounced Mott), KT, Des Moines, Iowa, is our new Executive Director as of April 1, 2014, succeeding Anne Pettygrove, CEO, upon her retirement date of April 30, 2014.

Jackie offers great passion and vision for P.E.O., in addition to strong leadership qualities for our executive office. Her most recent professional experiences include serving as Executive Director – Business Development for Outreach, Inc., and Vice President Marketing & Communications at WesleyLife.

She was previously recognized as one of Des Moines’ “Top 40 Under 40” professionals, which speaks to Jackie’s capabilities as someone who will make things happen and has also enabled her to build a strong network of contacts in the Des Moines area and nationally—all of which will be beneficial to P.E.O. In addition to her leadership qualities, Jackie is “technology savvy,” has strong marketing and social media capabilities as well as extensive experience developing and executing strategic plans.

Please join the executive board in welcoming Jackie to this leadership position for our executive office.

We wish to also thank Anne Pettygrove for her dedication and great accomplishments during her 20 years as our CEO. We are grateful for all of her contributions to our sisterhood. 😊
Message from the Editor

by Becky Frazier, Editor, The P.E.O. Record

This issue’s cover story comes to us from Steve Reed, director of public information for Cottey College. Steve’s article, on pages 8-9, is a wrap-up of Cottey’s A Defining Moment fundraising campaign which was wildly successful, raising more than the goal. Cottey is featured prominently throughout this issue of The Record—on pages 10-12 we hear from columnist Chuck Offenburger, who wrote a fight song for Cottey College after learning they did not have one; and on page 20, read about a P.E.O. chapter in Arkansas that has ties to three women attending Cottey right now.

The first of The Record’s series of biographies of the 2014 state presidents begins in this issue—on pages 21-24. Watch for more state president biographies in issues through the end of the year.

As always, you can find articles from the five P.E.O. projects—Educational Loan Fund, International Peace Scholarship, Program for Continuing Education, P.E.O. Scholar Awards and STAR—and a message from Dr. Judy Rogers, president of Cottey College. This issue also includes a page from the P.E.O. Foundation, with a graph that illustrates how funds were distributed to the P.E.O. International projects in 2013. Flip to the back cover to see updated totals of financial assistance distributed to women since the inception of all the P.E.O. philanthropies.

Ahn Hargens, P.E.O.’s document and media manager, contributed another Tech Tip for this issue—find it on page 48. We’ve heard from several readers who expressed their appreciation for these Tech Tips and have encouraged us to continue this feature, which we certainly plan to do.

It’s a bittersweet time at the P.E.O. Executive Office right now as we transition from the leadership of Anne Pettygrove as she retires to welcoming our new executive director Jackie Matt. I know I speak for all my coworkers when I say we are grateful for everything Anne has done for us and the P.E.O. Sisterhood over the years. She will be sorely missed and we wish her all the best. Please be sure to read Anne’s open letter to the P.E.O. membership on page 7 and on page 5, learn more about Jackie Matt, who we are all excited to get to know! 🌟
An Open and Personal Letter to the P.E.O. Membership

Well, I can hardly believe that this time has come. It is with mixed feelings that I write this letter to you! Twenty-four years ago I began work at the P.E.O. Executive Office in Des Moines, with the past 20 years at the helm as the chief executive officer of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. Six months ago, in October, I presented the executive board of International Chapter with my official notification of my intent to retire. Now, as you are reading this, those six months have passed, and I am RETIRED! Yikes!

On a previous page you have learned about P.E.O.’s new executive director, Jackie Matt. I wish her the very best and hope that she finds the position to be as rewarding as I have.

Gladys Bronwyn Stern, the English writer, said, “Silent gratitude isn’t much use to anyone.” Keeping that in mind, I want to express publicly my immense gratitude to you, dear readers, and to the members of the International executive board, the International boards and committees and to state, provincial and local officers and members for their advice, trust, confidence and encouragement over the years.

I also wish to thank and give a huge shout-out to the most caring, competent and efficient staff ever...those 36 dedicated souls at the P.E.O. Executive Office in Des Moines. Without them, I would have been ineffective, and my gratitude to them is boundless.

As one who was given a boost many years ago via an early PCE grant, I can say that P.E.O. has allowed me to follow some paths that would have been impossible without that first expression of faith in me from my mother’s Chapter CD in Pittsfield, Illinois, and from the PCE trustees who approved my grant. When Debbie Cowan, then CAO, trusted me enough to hire me in 1989 and then, most importantly, when the executive board put their faith in me in 1993 and offered me the position of CEO, I felt that I had come full circle.

I am profoundly grateful for a career that I never dreamed I could or would have, back when I was a single parent of four young children, scraping out a living with my five jobs!

For the past 20 years I have tried to do my job well and properly each and every day. I hope that I have been able to contribute something of value to P.E.O.—to give back to that very organization that reached out to me when I needed it most.

In the past few years a comprehensive strategic plan has been developed to take P.E.O. successfully into the future. With Jackie in the position of executive director and the dedication and direction of the executive board, our place as a premier women’s organization is secure.

I share the vision for our organization—that of growth, of course, but also of continued and increased educational assistance to women so that they, too, can live their dreams. I will watch with interest as we move toward a most significant event in 2019...P.E.O.’s 150th anniversary!

Now, however, I am looking forward to a new phase in my life...one that will allow me to spend time with my family—those four children and my 12 grandchildren. Perhaps I’ll even get to Italy to see my first great-grandchild! I have relocated to Gainesville, Florida, where I have purchased a small home in a golf community, close to my daughter Molly and her family and easily accessible by the rest of the kids—Allan, Sarah and Kate and their families. My little house is surrounded by pine trees and live oaks complete with Spanish moss. I hope to spend a considerable amount of time on the screened-in porch, reading the many books that have accumulated unread in a corner of my living room. I have a friend who is making arrangements for me to possibly participate in an archaeological dig...one of my lifelong goals! And I’m dusting off my golf clubs, too!

I’ll take care of one last task for P.E.O. I’ve been asked to coordinate, from Florida, the Convention of International Chapter to be held in October 2015 in Indianapolis, so perhaps I’ll see some of you there!

Thank you again for all you have done for me. It has been my extreme honor and pleasure to serve as CEO (and convention coordinator) for the P.E.O. Sisterhood for the past 20 years.

I hope we can keep in touch. My very best wishes to each of you.

With P.E.O. love....

Anne Seiler Pettygrove

Life is Good.
Cottey College built an amazing set of wings and didn’t just fly, it soared! Raising an incredible $40.4 million—more than $5 million above the goal—Cottey, in partnership with the P.E.O. Sisterhood, did all kinds of things successfully.

“Sixteen women, nearly all volunteers with little or no fundraising experience, committed to lead the campaign and to raise the largest amount of money in the history of the College,” said Barbara Andes, past president of the P.E.O. Sisterhood and campaign chairman. “They recruited thousands of volunteers in both the United States and Canada, designed electronic communications to 16,000 individuals celebrating significant gifts, created a competition among nearly 6,000 local P.E.O. chapters, organized a network of 5,400 P.E.O.s who kept their chapters informed through monthly messages and planned 96 awareness events with more than 3,800 guests attending with follow-up calls made by other volunteers after each event.”

“More than 20,000 donors made pledges and gifts and, of these, 9,000 donors made a first-time gift to the College,” said Carla Farmer, campaign manager. “P.E.O. chapters contributed $8,488,775.”
students. Today the College has six four-year majors: business, English, environmental studies, international relations and business, liberal arts and psychology, with more majors in the planning stages.

As part of the expansion into four-year degrees, and with the use of additional funds for scholarships raised through the Campaign, the College this spring announced new Opportunity Scholarships designated for third- and fourth-year students. These scholarships are set at $3,000 each and are renewable annually and are in addition to any other institutional scholarships the students may receive. To be eligible for this scholarship a student must have good academic standing and be nominated by a faculty member. This semester, 31 students were nominated for the Opportunity Scholarships.

By the time this article appears in The Record, ground will have been broken on the new Fine Arts Instructional Building, one of the Campaign priorities. This state-of-the-art facility will bring the fine arts under one roof. Just as you have helped this campaign succeed, you can help students succeed by sending them to Cottey. If a campaign that began with 16 women volunteers can raise more than $40 million, just imagine what can happen in the next five years!

For a complete listing of campaign donors, check the Cottey website www.cottey.edu/campaign in July.
The P.E.O. needed me, so of course I reported for duty. Chapter GY of Des Moines, Iowa, was having its annual lunch-eon raising money for college scholarships, and the sisterhood asked if I would be guest speaker. Wise guy that I am, I took note that this particular chapter includes my mother-in-law and my two sisters-in-law as members, and said yes immediately. The contact person asked what my fee would be, and I said “a pie made by my mother-in-law.” And I had a grand time delivering the speech on Saturday, January 18.

Rare for me here in my late years, I actually spent some time researching and preparing my speech.

Now, most people in Iowa know about P.E.O. But in case you don’t, it is “a philanthropic educational organization interested in bringing women increased opportunities for higher education,” per the Internet site of Iowa Wesleyan College in the southeast Iowa town of Mount Pleasant. P.E.O. was founded on campus there in 1869, and thus Mount Pleasant has Chapter “A.” There are now said to be 300,000 women who are members of 6,000 P.E.O. chapters (each carrying letters from the alphabet) in the U.S. and Canada.

They keep secret about what “P.E.O.” actually stands for, which over the last 140 years has made a whole lot of journalists, husbands and other gossips all the more curious about it. Oh, we kid them about their secret name — “it’s really ‘Praise Each Other,’ isn’t it?” But knowing that they do a lot of good, we let them get away with it.

One thing I was reminded of, as I was doing my pre-speech research, is that while P.E.O. provides scholarships for young women heading off to many colleges and universities, the organization owns and funds Cottey College in Nevada, Missouri, a town of 9,000 in the southwest part of that state. The two-year school, which now offers some four-year programs, was founded in 1869 by Virginia Alice Cottey, who believed women should have equal educational opportunity with men. In 1927, she “bequeathed” the school to P.E.O., according to the fine Cottey College site on the Internet: www.cottey.edu. Today, there are about 350 women students from 40 states and 26 nations. The photos of the campus made me want to go see it.

As I continued browsing, I was delighted to see that Cottey also has

The speech judges at my P.E.O. appearance — my sister-in-law Chris Woods, my mother-in-law Sue Burt and my wife Carla Offenburger. Another sister-in-law, Tammie Amsbaugh, was AWOL.
intercollegiate sports—volleyball, basketball and softball, with cross country and tennis being added. The Cottey teams are the “Comets,” and their colors are yellow and white—same as P.E.O.’s official colors.

Naturally, I wondered what the fight song is. If you have intercollegiate teams, you certainly have a fight song, don’t you?

I sure couldn’t find it on the Cottey College website. I did come across the Cottey alma mater, which is an original tune (give them credit), and very alma mater-ish in its lyrics, otherwise unremarkable. But no fight song.

Late on Friday afternoon, just more than 12 hours before my speech, I emailed Steve Reed, director of public information at Cottey, and Dave Ketterman, the head basketball coach and athletic director, asking what the fight song is and where I could find it. I thought it might be fun to sing it to the P.E.O. sisters at lunch on Saturday.

I heard back immediately from Reed: “Cottey does not have a fight song. Athletics were re-introduced in 1999, so no historic fight song that I am aware of, and no newly-composed ones, either.” Later I heard from Coach Ketterman: “I have no idea about a fight song. Sorry.”

Sorry, indeed!

Loyal readers here know that I have a reputation as a sort of “Doctor of Fight Songs.” I have helped resurrect them at three Iowa colleges—Loras College, Buena Vista University and Coe College. I blogged about that last fall.

Back in 2002, I was hanging out at Briar Cliff University in Sioux City—that’s a Catholic school founded by nuns of the pacifist Franciscan order. President Bev Wharton and I were talking about what an ambitious sports program BCU now has. I asked what their fight song was, and I thought she was going to faint. “We can’t have a fight song!” Wharton blurted. “We are a Franciscan university!”

I responded, quite reasonably I thought: “Well, you still need a song, so let’s call it a ‘spirit song,’ and I’ll write you one.”

And I did. I even had Brad Mariska, a Buena Vista graduate who went on to earn a master’s degree in musical composition and is now a high school band instructor in Austin, Minnesota, write music to carry my words. Briar Cliff ignored us. But for the record, here’s how it started, and please note the thoughtful accommodation I made for their Franciscan feelings about not mistreating anybody:

We value our opponents,
We’re so glad that you’re here,
So please don’t think us nasty
If we try to kick your rear!

Well, actually you can hear the whole thing in a YouTube posting by searching Briar Cliff Spirit Song.

O.K., now, back to Cottey College. I did not have much time to write and rehearse. I needed a familiar tune that I knew how to sing, one I could write lyrics for, to tell Cottey’s story.

I borrowed the “Buena Vista Fight Song.” Lord knows, with all I’ve done for that song at that school, I ought to be able to borrow it once in a while.

This snappy tune was written by Will B. Green, a 1941 graduate of BV who later returned to his alma mater and served as its legendary band director from 1950 to 1972.

At https://soundcloud.com/buena-vista-university/buena-vista-fight-song you can hear the BVU band playing it;
you can listen to the music while looking on down below, to the lyrics I’ve written for the fight song for Cottey College:

The lyrics:

Cottey Comets, we are oh so bright!
Streaking ‘cross the skies in yellow and white.
We’ll be successful
Wherever we go,
Because right behind us is the P-E-O-o-o-o!
Cottey Comets! We are cute and tough,
But even better we are wise.
We’ll win today and
We’ll win tomorrow,
And we can win without guys!
(Repeat both verses)
So, there you go, Cottey. Sing it loud, sing it proud, and may a new force be with you.

I used the fight song to finish my speech, and the P.E.O. sisters in Des Moines seemed to love it.

Oh, you are probably wondering about my pay-off pie, aren’t you? My mother-in-law Sue Burt, of Des Moines, has been a fantastic pie baker over the years, but for some peculiar reason, she has lately decided she is no longer making them for my brothers-in-law and me. However, she knew I’d out-foxed her on this P.E.O. speech deal. So she hired her friend Frieda Griffin, also of Des Moines, to make me a pie. And, wow, it was better than my speech. It was better than the fight song. It was an apple pie Griffin made from a 62-year-old recipe, which once won her second place in a Living History Farms apple pie baking contest. She topped the perfect crust with Velveeta cheese balls that she shaped to look like apples, complete with stems and leaves!

Chuck Offenburger was a columnist for The Des Moines Register for more than 20 years. He continues to write columns for his website, offenburger.com, where this article originally appeared on January 24, 2014. Reprinted with permission.
State Conventions and BILs

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

While International Convention rolls around every two years, state, provincial and district conventions are held annually. BILs not only are invited, but encouraged to accompany their P.E.O.s to their respective conventions. I have had the incredible fortune of joining my wife Kathy at the last two International Conventions, and now look forward to my first state convention this May in Flagstaff, Arizona. My understanding is that while on a scale somewhat smaller than International, the passion and dedication of P.E.O.s displayed at state conventions are just as impressive, just as moving. I can’t wait.

I am delighted to share the following marvelous recap from BIL J. Maxwell Smith, husband of Patrice Smith, Chapter AI, Swarthmore, who spoke at the Pennsylvania State Convention in June 2010.

Hi, everybody! I’m Max Smith. This is where I thank you all for returning my wife to me pretty much as you found her. I also want to share with you some of my experiences as a state board BIL.

Being a board BIL was surprising at first. I learned soon after Patrice joined the board that the year is divided into BC and AC—Before Convention and After Convention. Okay, I can learn to live with that: Makes sense. For a while each year, some things will be put on hold. Do without. Just like Lent.

The rude awakening came when I learned that AC doesn’t begin the day After Convention—there are reports to write, issues to follow up—and Before Convention begins around Labor Day.

“Honey, it’s October. What say today we plant these spring bulbs you ordered?”

“That will have to wait until After Convention."

The board BIL finds out that there are days when all he has to do is open his mouth and he takes his life in his own hands! We learn to phrase our words carefully. For instance:

“Hi, honey! What’s for dinner?”

Better to say: “Can I help you with dinner?”

Even better: “Where would you like to go for dinner?”

Ultra safe: “Have some chocolate?”

Here’s another: “What are you so worked up about?”

But to say: “I hope you didn’t over-do it today.”

Better still: “I’ve always loved you in that robe!”

Best to say: “Have some chocolate!”

Another surprise was that some of the positions came with a uniform! During her year as treasurer, it was a hard hat and tool belt for a presentation with one of the women she admires the most, Cherie Baker.

During her year as organizer Patrice came back from chapter visits all bubbly and regaled me with stories of wonderful sisters and beautiful homes, even when arriving home after midnight. That job came with tights and a cape: Super-Sister!

When she was second vice president, she wore Forget-Me-Nots.

But this isn’t about her, it’s about all of you. You have been wonderful, supportive, loving and amazing sisters. The benefits to Patrice and the rewards she has gained and the memories she cherishes will be with her for a long time. In particular, I can’t say enough about her sisters in Chapter AI. Their love and support lightened her load considerably.

It’s been a long road for Patrice. She has had her highs and lows. Let me tell you: the lows have been shallow dishes, the highs have been Himalayan. All of you have been served well! Patrice devoted real dedication to each board position.

Her hard work has paid off with rich benefits for her. She has had wonderful experiences in many places she might never have seen otherwise such as Seattle, Vancouver, San Diego, Minneapolis, Des Moines, and Nevada, Missouri. She has made and has been energized by many friendships with amazing women which she will cherish forever.

I love her, so I thank you.

Postscript:

There is another kind of BC. Patrice served as the chair of Red Region of the Cottey College Chapter Challenge, more or less the entire eastern portion of North America. She executed her enormous responsibility with her customary efficiency clothed in amiable, tolerant tactfulness. The campaign made the Dallas convention apocryphal, helping to bring the Cottey Challenge to a close. We’ll see what comes next, AC.

Max Smith
In Maryland, Chief Warrant Officer Trisha Dixon proudly wears a P.E.O. star, but this past year, she has traded it in for combat boots during her year-long deployment in Afghanistan. Chapter G members call her “sister” but her Navy colleagues call her “mustang” meaning moving from being in the enlisted ranks to those of a Commissioned Officer. This is especially impressive because she has achieved this in a seriously male-dominated environment, and at only 38, will retire in the next several years to take her pick of many amazing offers of employment.

Trish enlisted in the Navy two weeks after graduation from high school because she realized it would provide her the best opportunity for an education. The youngest of three daughters of a single mother, she was determined to make a future for herself. And indeed she has, because she is a cryptology technical expert as well as having earned double degrees in psychology and criminal justice. She is now working to complete her master’s degree. Her proudest achievement however, is raising her daughter, ten-year-old Trinity. Trisha’s mother, Kelley, and sister, Tonia, quit their jobs and moved to Maryland to care for Trinity this year. It has been said family members of our military heroes serve our country as much as the actual serviceman does—Trisha’s loving family proves this.

From her home in Nevada, Trisha headed to boot camp in Orlando, then Arizona, where she discovered an interest in cryptology which is the practice and study of techniques for secure communication in the presence of third parties called adversaries.
Immediately excelling, she began her ascent through Navy rates. While stationed in Japan, Trisha met the airman she eventually married. They managed to move as a couple to both Guam and Hawaii. Trisha continued her education while teaching college courses. She earned the office of Chief at the early age of 27. Her mother was able to attend the ceremony to pin her daughter. If not busy enough, Trisha also gave birth to her daughter during this time in 2003. Although her parents divorced in 2010, Trinity has been surrounded not only by her family but also many close friends. Finally Trisha moved to Pasadena, Maryland, where she worked in D.C. and at Fort Meade. In 2009 she reached her present rate of Chief Warrant Officer, a huge accomplishment for a young woman.

Trish's friends describe her as determined, tenacious, funny and incredibly caring. She is also a sharp shooter and quite physically fit even though she suffers from asthma. For “fun” in Afghanistan, Trish will soon compete in a triathlon, rowing, running and biking in the extreme heat.

Trisha has a heart for those coming up in the ranks behind her. She is a prime example of a mentor, frequently taking calls at all hours from those who know she will make herself available. In Afghanistan, her group is involved in identifying, training and mentoring Afghani police who will in turn be able to secure and protect their own villages. During a recent furlough, she explained she has quickly come to understand the nuances of a very different culture, and is confident and hopeful the strongholds they are building will hold. We asked if she felt the people wanted them there or were happy they were there. The people Trish has worked with definitely are very grateful for the training they receive. The military there realize Americans want them to come home, but they will stay until they are absolutely positive their trainees would not be taken back by the Taliban.

While Trish is known for being caring of those she supervises, she did not get where she is without developing a tough skin. At times, as an officer, she must respond appropriately. As a male colleague says, when necessary, “she can make a grown man cry.”

This amazing Naval officer is a dedicated P.E.O. She appreciates working with a group of intelligent and caring women. She also expects to expand her sphere of influence and is particularly interested in the educational aspects of the organization. Her P.E.O. sisters are eager to have her back; Trish is looking forward to serving Chapter G with the same determination she has served her country.
Building a Bridge to India

by Sue A. Martin, AB, Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Education remains one of the most effective and significant tools in empowering women. Last summer, the amazing, talented and supportive women of Chapter AB in North Carolina built a bridge from Winston-Salem to Delhi, India. They had listened to numerous stories of my daughter’s trips to India as a Princeton University student, first for nine months before starting her freshman year of college, and again in the summer of 2011 to work as a volunteer “housemother” for 40 young girls in an orphanage. The mention of Lizzie’s upcoming return trip last summer—coupled with my good fortune in being able to accompany her—was the spark that ignited a passionate, fun-filled and meaningful activity for our chapter. As a certified Physician Assistant, I had planned a health workshop presentation for the girls in the Udayan Care Greater Noida girls’ home outside Delhi, India. In addition, donations of toothbrushes, soap, lip balm, socks and toiletries flooded in. During the weeks preceding the trip, bags of these items frequently appeared on our front porch. Friends and women from church also assisted—with generous monetary contributions, prayer support and encouragement—compounding the impact of women helping women.

Lizzie contacted Udayan Care, the system of orphanages headquartered in Delhi, and made preliminary arrangements for us to visit. On Thursday, August 8, 2013, we had our initial meeting with Dr. Kiran Modi (founder of Udayan Care, managing trustee and Nobel Laureate) and Shradha Agarwal (assistant manager of Udayan Care) to discuss our plans and to hear their suggestions. They were warm and encouraging as we discussed the parallel goals of P.E.O. and Udayan Care in promoting educational opportunities for the empowerment of women. Udayan Care began with the combined recognition of the staggering number of orphans in India, living in frightening and hopeless situations, and Dr. Modi’s outrage at the injustice encountered by these children. Udayan Care’s initial mission to provide homes for orphaned and abandoned children has expanded to include “ensuring higher education for girls” as an additional objective.

The girls’ home in Greater Noida that we visited is approximately 30 miles outside Delhi and houses 35 residents and several staff members, including a housemother, cook, social worker and several international volunteers. After formulating our plan for the upcoming visit, we made our travel arrangements and looked forward to Sunday, August 11, 2013. We arrived at the orphanage on Sunday morning around 10 a.m. to find the girls busily washing clothes, cleaning their rooms, doing household chores, and working on schoolwork. At 10:30 we greeted the girls and divided into two groups for the health workshop presentations. We met with the younger girls first and the older girls one hour later. At the end of each session, we divided into small groups and assigned
topics to present later in the afternoon in a performance or “talent show” demonstrating their knowledge of the information that had been discussed. We enjoyed drinking chai, visiting with the girls, observing preparation of lunch and sharing a simple and delicious lunch consisting of rice, dal, curd, subji and chappattis. It was lovely that in the busting preparation and activity leading up to lunch, there was a quiet moment that occurred after everyone was seated. A small voice asked a blessing and I realized that this was not only a warm and loving home, but a family...and a sisterhood.

Although my workshop was mainly focused on health, I wanted to convey to the girls our admiration for them in their strength and determination in seeking education and in the love that they displayed in caring for each other as sisters. I pointed out that they obviously recognized and appreciated the blessings that they received in their nice home, their opportunities for education, the good food available to them, the loving caregivers and the “sisterhood” that forms their family. I also spoke about women in general as the caregivers of the world, how we as P.E.O. sisters care for each other, and how the sisters of Chapter AB, North Carolina, loved and cared for them from 7,000 miles away. We encouraged them to study hard and to continue to care for each other as sisters.

The afternoon was a delightful presentation of the girls’ health skits produced and performed with poise, preparation and humor. Cooperation, courage and protection of those unable to participate fully due to language or physical barriers was endearing and reminiscent of interaction among our P.E.O. sisterhood. An award ceremony followed the “talent show” and we recognized the groups for “most imaginative,” “best display of knowledge of topic,” “most fun,” “best dramatic presentation” and “greatest display of courage.” Each girl received a handmade tote bag in recognition and for graduation from the health workshop. Their delight and gratitude was overwhelming and each girl hugged us and asked us to thank the sisters at home for their love and the beautiful bags and gifts. The girls then had an informal celebration with dancing much like a Bollywood movie. The warm hospitality, the gratitude for our visit and the feeling of hope gave Lizzie and me a sense of happiness and contentment that made us delay our departure as long as possible. We left with hugs, wishes to return and a renewed sense of commitment in helping these young women achieve their goals.

In visiting with these young women, I was impressed with the value that they recognized and placed upon education. Lizzie was able to speak individually with many as they discussed what they had been studying and doing two years ago and their current goals. One girl is in pharmacy school, another aspires to be a writer and all seem to be working diligently toward goals which they recognize as unique opportunities in a culture where a girl child is not treasured and education of women is neither culturally universal nor easily obtained. These special young women recognize their gifts in the midst of extremely difficult circumstances and are working to achieve their goals with the help of amazing people like Dr. Modi, Shradha, Lizzie and the P.E.O. Sisterhood! It was a privilege to see women on both sides of the world caring for each other, and it was impossible to discern which group experienced more joy—the P.E.O. sisters as they created the colorful tote bags or the courageous young women receiving their lovely gifts!
I've been surrounded by music for as long as I can remember. As a very young girl I had the run of my parents' restaurant, where live bands played on the weekends and the jukebox rolled.

I was born and raised in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, the birthplace of our sisterhood. Our house sat in the center of town, just a short mile from Iowa Wesleyan College, the P.E.O Library, Old Main and the glorious trees on the campus lawn.

In my early years, my great-grandmother Isabel Miles lived with us for a time. She was a musician and sounds of the piano, often hymns, filled our house. She played long and loud, with enthusiasm. She also had a beautiful gold star pin.

I so admired that star and I'd ask her again and again what the letters P.E.O. stood for. She wouldn't tell me. I did, however, know two things: that she and my mother would attend a meeting together once a month and their chapter was “Original A."

My pianist mother, Carmen Heaton, OX, Mount Pleasant, Iowa, ensured I took up an instrument right out of the gate and enrolled me in my school's Suzuki string program in kindergarten. I played the violin. Later I would pick up other instruments and eventually discovered that what I could really do was sing.

All the while, the Iowa Wesleyan campus would become like a second home, where the big things happened—piano recitals, youth orchestra performances, vocal competitions and community theater productions. In my senior year of college, I brought my recital from Illinois, where I was attending school, to the chapel auditorium stage.

I'm certain that beyond my upbringing, I inherited artistic genes. I come from a line of strong, confident and creative women—all proud P.E.O.s—whose mediums ranged from music and visual art to theater, including my two grandmothers, the late Jean Heaton, J, Washington, Iowa, the late Viola Crawford, GT, Winfield, Iowa and my aunt Jan Gordon, GA, Los Angeles, California.

I continue the lineage as a fourth generation P.E.O. and a professional singer. It’s the career I’ve trained for and still do, through private study and workshops that have taken me in recent years to New York, Chicago and Texas.
Today, I balance my life as a performer, mother and spouse with a daytime role in corporate America. At a time when my children are now ready to pick up their first instruments, I still have the fire for pursuing my passion and dreaming big. I hope my children feel the same when they are my age.

I maintain an active schedule, performing regularly in Omaha, Nebraska, where I’m based, on theater stages, for private events and with major organizations such as Opera Omaha, the Omaha Symphony, Rose Theater and the Holland Center.

I take my music on the road throughout the Midwest, with cabaret style shows and concerts in restored opera houses, auditoriums and other venues. I often meet fellow P.E.O.s along the way and when I return to the Mount Pleasant area to sing, I see supportive sisters in the audience cheering me on. When I made my Chicago cabaret debut two years ago, a group of P.E.O.s and BILs made the trip. I love how music, like P.E.O., brings us all together.

Nearly 18 months ago, I took a leap of faith and started work on my first album, called “Let’s Fly.” Co-produced with my friend and mentor, J. Gawf, of Opera Omaha, it’s been the most challenging and exhilarating experience of my performance career. It’s meant countless hours of preparation, developing musical arrangements, securing and rehearsing with musicians, and weeks in the studio. It’s meant a crash course on licensing and copyright and putting my complete trust in an artistic team who believes in the project as much as I do.

I come from a line of strong, confident and creative women—all proud P.E.O.s—whose mediums ranged from music and visual art to theater...I continue the lineage as a fourth generation P.E.O. and a professional singer.

As I neared the end of the process, preparing my album for release, I couldn’t help but get introspective and think about where I am today and where I came from. I thought about my years as a young, wide-eyed girl in Mount Pleasant who sang her heart out in choir, yearned to be on stage, and who toiled around in the practice rooms at Old Main. I thought of my husband who holds down the home front so I can sing and my children who can’t believe their mom is on iTunes. And I thought about the strong women in my family, including my great-grandmother who surely never would have thought that memories of her rollicking piano or her gold star would still be with me decades later. 🎶
Arkansas Chapter CE finds Serendipity

by Tina Mills, CE, Siloam Springs, Arkansas

In English 101, the professor wanted the students to understand one word for that year. So at the beginning of each class, he would go to the chalk board and write the word “serendipity” and then write a definition with an example. My favorite definition is: a pleasant surprise.

Recently, it became known that three young women related to members of Chapter CE are attending Cottey College at the same time. How unusual and what “a pleasant surprise.” These ladies are: Lauren Shepherd, granddaughter of Linda Galyean, Stephanie Nesbitt, granddaughter of Carol Nesbitt and Sarah Mills, daughter of Tina Mills.

Lauren Shepherd graduated from Bentonville High School in Bentonville, Arkansas. She is currently majoring in biology, but is considering changing and staying longer at Cottey and getting a bachelor’s degree in psychology. Lauren decided to attend Cottey when she had the opportunity to join the Cottey Softball Team. She plays middle infield for the Cottey Comets. In her spare time she enjoys working out, playing basketball and hanging with friends. One of Lauren’s favorite things is spending time with her family. She is a Mobile Transport Operator in the Army National Guard and has served for about two and a half years and continues to serve even as she attends Cottey. Lauren’s favorite thing about Cottey is the academics. She loves the one-on-one time she receives from her professors as well as all the opportunities and cool events on campus.

Stephanie Nesbitt graduated from Siloam Springs High School in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. She is working toward an associate’s degree in music with an emphasis on vocal performance. She said that coming to “C” for Yourself weekend helped her make the decision to attend Cottey. She likes that Cottey encourages women to follow their dreams. Stephanie is not only talented vocally, but she can also play the flute, piano and taught herself to play the guitar. Stephanie is a member of the Alphan Society on campus and is a Golden Key member. On Wednesday nights, she sings and plays the guitar with the First Baptist Church worship band in a service catered to college students. Stephanie has written an instrumental piano song titled “Hope” that she is trying to get published. She says that her passion for music has taught her many things like being committed, persistent and ambitious.

Sarah Mills was home schooled. She is presently working toward an associate’s degree in business. However, she is considering a bachelor’s degree in international business at Cottey. Sarah’s interests are in the fashion Industry, so after graduating from Cottey she will continue her education in fashion design and apparel studies. Sarah made the decision to go to Cottey, because her sister is an alumna and she knew Cottey would give her all the keys she needed to succeed in college and beyond. She is a member of the Cottey CoMotion dance company, and is involved in the Cottey Theatre Department, LEO (Leadership, Experience, and Opportunity), Student Government Association, and is a Golden Key member. Sarah has been sewing for ten years and what some people might not know is that she made an heirloom blouse that was published in the October/November issue of Sew Beautiful magazine.

Each one of these young women is very special to Chapter CE and to support them the chapter sends monthly care packages filled with unique gifts and inspirational cards filled with encouraging words. Each of these ladies stated they appreciate all of the support they receive from Chapter CE and the P.E.O. Sisterhood.

From the left: Stephanie Nesbitt, Sarah Mills, Lauren Shepherd
Betty Smith
Alabama
Caring and Sharing Through P.E.O.
In 1999, Betty Smith joined Chapter V in Ozark, Alabama, and has been a member ever since. She has served this chapter as president, vice president, corresponding secretary, treasurer, chaplain, ELF chair and STAR chair. She also served on the finance committee of the Alabama State Chapter before joining the state board in 2009.

Betty has been married 48 years to her BIL Jamie. They have three children and four grandchildren. Her daughter Leslie is also a member of Chapter V.

Betty graduated from Troy State University with a B.S. in physical education and received a M.S. degree in secondary education, mental retardation and learning disabilities. She taught for 33 years before retiring in 2003.

Betty is very active in her church, First United Methodist in Ozark. She has served on the administrative board and has been a trustee. She is currently her Sunday school class' secretary/treasurer, on the bereavement committee and leads a low impact aerobic class three mornings a week.

She loves fishing at her vacation home on Lake Eufaula, attending Troy football games and watching her grandchildren’s many activities.

She also enjoys traveling with her BIL who is a Past Grand Master and the current S.G.I.G. of Scottish Rite Masons in Alabama. Meeting new people and renewing old friendships is the highlight of all the trips they make together.

Julie Gaddy
Arkansas
Believe…in the P.E.O. Sisterhood
Julie Gaddy’s family was rich in P.E.O. traditions and ideals. In 1985, when Julie and her sister were initiated into Chapter H, Harrison, Arkansas, by their mother, they became fourth generation P.E.O.s. She also holds P.E.O. responsible for helping her find her husband. As a student at the University of Arkansas, Julie lived in the sorority house. The housemother, a P.E.O., hired a fellow P.E.O. sister’s grandson, Jim Gaddy, to work at the house. That is where Julie and Jim met and started dating. Thank you P.E.O.!

Julie thrives on staying busy. She runs her own decorating business, is a substitute teacher, church office assistant and volunteers for school events for her three children. Julie loves to travel, spend time at the lake, entertain with friends and nurture her family. Through Julie’s state board service to P.E.O. she has discovered her passion to help others. She says, “I believe that the P.E.O. Sisterhood provides the greatest opportunities to stretch beyond one’s comfort zones, to learn new skills and to empower the same in others; all the while supported by the common bonds of sisterhood.”

Carolyn J. Escherich
Connecticut
P.E.O.’s DAISY
Carolyn Escherich has lived in New Canaan, Connecticut, for 39 years and comes from a family of P.E.O.s. Her grandmother (chapter eternal), mother, two sisters and niece are all P.E.O.s. Carolyn was initiated into Chapter F, Stamford, Connecticut, in March 1988.

Carolyn has been in three chapters in Connecticut, holding most offices at the local level. She was active in organizing Chapter AC in 1995. As a proud state organizer she merged her first chapter, F, with Chapter AC in 2013, forming her current chapter F-AC. On the state level, she served on many committees as well as General Convention Chairman in 2004.

Carolyn graduated from Westminster College in Pennsylvania, in 1983 with a B.A. in elementary education. Married 26 years to her husband Kyle, they have two daughters. Mary is a first year at NYU School of Medicine and will marry her high school sweetheart in 2014. Samantha is a junior at the Ohio State University studying human development.

Carolyn has the P.E.O. “never say no” attitude. When the opportunity arose, she taught nine years at a nursery school, as well as volunteering at her church, Human Services board and serving Meals on Wheels.

Carolyn prides herself in knowing she is a good friend and always there for anyone who needs her. She is very organized, enjoys helping others and has a good time with whatever she does. She enjoys baking, travel, walking, reading and spending time with family and friends.
Jennifer Mitchell
Florida
Driving Miss Daisy
Jennifer Mitchell graduated from the University of Florida with honors, earning a B.S. in mechanical engineering. Upon graduation, she moved to Mobile, Alabama, to work for International Paper Company.

While in Mobile she married Brent, an electrical engineer. They have two daughters, Evelyn and Claire. Jennifer was fortunate to be able to quit work and stay home with their children.

When her youngest entered kindergarten, Jennifer was offered a position with Auditech Associates as a compliance consultant for federal political campaigns and PACs, including reporting to the Federal Elections Commission. She is currently on sabbatical until the 2018 election cycle.

Jennifer enjoys being involved in the community and has been active in Girl Scouts, Junior League, Kappa Alpha Theta and the American Society of Women Engineers. The family enjoys scuba diving, camping, skiing, snowboarding and traveling. At church, Jennifer facilitates a women’s Bible study and mentors young mothers.

Jennifer is a third generation P.E.O. She and her sister were initiated into their mother’s and grandmother’s chapter when she was 18—one of the greatest gifts she’s ever received. She prays that one day her daughters will also know the joy of being P.E.O.s.

Patricia F. Calmes
Georgia
P.E.O. Wisdom
Patricia Calmes grew up in Newton, Iowa, and is a Cotey College alumna. She continued her education at the University of Alaska in College, Alaska, and at the University of North Georgia in Dahlonega, Georgia.

She joined Chapter AC, Gainesville, Georgia, in 1977 and is now a member of Chapter BL in Gainesville.

Patricia was employed for 30 years by the state of Georgia—10 years as a caseworker doing special needs adoptions and 20 years as a parole officer and chief parole officer for the state board of pardons and paroles. She volunteered for nine years on the Enotah Circuit Task Force on Domestic Violence, three years as chairman, and volunteered for more than 30 years in Theatre Wings.

Patricia has three daughters and 10 grandchildren. She enjoys reading, genealogy, spending time with her grandchildren, writing family stories and taking adult education courses in American history and memoir writing.

Sara Sprouse
Maryland
P.E.O.—Do You See What I See?
Sara Sprouse first heard about P.E.O. from friends and family who are members of the organization. She was initially attracted to the Sisterhood through those women. She was impressed with their dedication, the service they provided to P.E.O. and the bonds of friendship they had with each other and to P.E.O.s in other chapters. Through these special women, she was given the opportunity to discover the Sisterhood. Sara feels our projects are important, but the close bonds between sisters are the glue that makes each chapter special and different.

Sara was initiated into Chapter D, Baltimore in 2005. She transferred to Chapter AJ, Westminster, before moving to her current chapter, W, Columbia, Maryland. She held the offices of recording secretary and president of Chapter D, as well as the newsletter editor for Chapter D, and was installed on the Maryland State Board on April 25, 2009. She has enjoyed the flexibility that P.E.O. has provided in transferring between chapters when work demands have required a change in meeting day or location.

Sara was born in Fort Polk, Louisiana, and grew up in the Annapolis, Maryland, area. She graduated from Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Maryland, with a bachelor’s degree in business administration. Sara works full-time in human resources for Kelly Government Solutions, where she serves as an employee relations representative, overseeing the activities of contract employees assigned to the National Institutes of Health. She is also responsible for managing employee recognition and retention events.

Sara and her BIL of 13 years, Matt, live in Eldersburg, Maryland, along with their Sheltie Lulu. In their spare time, Sara and Matt enjoy operating their own business, as well as cooking and watching various sports activities.

P.E.O.s in her family include Wilma Robley, a member of Chapter AN, Severna Park, Maryland, and Becky Cusick, a member of Chapter D, Baltimore, Maryland.
Francie Bachman
Tennessee
P.E.O. ~ The Heart of the Star

Francie Bachman was born in Wichita, Kansas. After several family moves, they settled in Saint Joseph, Missouri, where she met her future husband Tom. They were married after graduating from Kansas State University, where Francie received her degree in clothing and textiles. She uses that degree now as the assistant manager of Premier Fabrics, a locally owned home décor fabric store.

Francie and Tom have three sons—Ben, who married Jamey in July 2013, lives in Starkville, Mississippi; Patrick, who will marry Cortney in May 2014, lives in Nashville, Tennessee; and Greg lives in Clarksville, Tennessee.

Initiated into Chapter KY, Parkville, Missouri, in 1981, Francie was able to take her P.E.O. experience with her as they moved to Topeka, Kansas, where she became a part of Chapter FI and then to Germantown, Tennessee, where Francie transferred her membership to Chapter AA. Her mother, Beth Vining, is a member of Chapter BJ in Saint Joseph, Missouri.

When not involved with P.E.O. activities, Francie volunteers her time with alumnae from her collegiate sorority, Alpha Chi Omega, where she has served as Province Alumnae Chair for several areas; she is also involved with the Women's Guild of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church. For relaxation, Francie enjoys reading, painting and crafts and she cannot pass up the treasures hidden in any dusty antique shop!

Susan Penrod
Texas
Bold Dreams; Boundless Love

Susan Penrod was born in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Being the daughter of a Presbyterian pastor meant moves to Saint Louis, Missouri, and Portland, Oregon. Susan graduated from the University of Tulsa with a degree in Christian education and from Saint Mary's University, San Antonio with an interior design professional degree. She credits spending her junior year in college at Silliman University, Philippines, for her love of travel and appreciation of other cultures.

Susan taught public school, founded pre-schools in Florida and Texas, and served churches as Christian educator and in the district office of the Presbyterian Church in south Texas. Susan has been president of the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators and the San Antonio Texas A&M Mothers' Club. She enjoys volunteering at church.

In 1987 Susan was initiated into Chapter FP, San Antonio. A second generation P.E.O. with a sister active in a Virginia chapter, she grew up valuing the Sisterhood. Susan’s daughter-in-law was recently initiated into her chapter.

Susan has been married for 43 years to Michael, a retired airline pilot. They have two married sons and two wonderful grandchildren. She enjoys knitting, her chapter’s book club, cooking with her husband and Bible study.

Gayle Lichti
Utah
P.E.O.: Building Bridges Among Women

Gayle Lichti was born and raised in Plattsmouth, Nebraska, graduating from Nebraska Wesleyan University with a degree in biology and Bryan Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in Lincoln, Nebraska. After living and working as a medical/surgical nurse in Omaha, Nebraska, and Shawnee Mission, Kansas, for six years, she, her husband Doug and their small children moved to North Platte, Nebraska, where Doug began a practice in general surgery. It was here that Gayle was initiated into Chapter EB in 1986. They later moved to Orem, Utah, where she became a member of Chapter Z, Provo.

Gayle remained a stay-at-home mom for 19 years while raising their three children; Kristin, Brandon and Sara. During this time she volunteered for Centerpoint Church, Utah Valley Christian Women's Fellowship, and her children's school. She has held almost every local chapter P.E.O. office and has enjoyed participating in various state and local committees.

In 2003, Gayle returned to work part time as a Registered Nurse First Assistant, assisting her husband in the operating room. Doug and Gayle recently moved to Park City, Utah, where they continue to work and plan to retire.

Gayle enjoys traveling to visit their three adult children and spouses and grandson, Benjamin. She likes to read, quilt, ski, play tennis, hike and watch Nebraska football. She and Doug also enjoy boating at Lake Powell, off-roading in Moab and spending time with friends.
The P.E.O. International website
is full of valuable information, tools and fun ideas for P.E.O.s and non-members alike.
If you have yet to visit, check it out... It’s all the rage!

peointernational.org

Oh Violet, you simply MUST try the P.E.O. website!
Yes, the P.E.O. website is a wonder to behold, Violet! It’s where I found the mints for our tea party last week, in the Items for Sale ads online! There was even a picture of them!

Really, dear! It’s got P.E.O. news, info about how to nominate project recipients, ways to donate, chapter program ideas, P.E.O. jewelry for sale, loads of Membership information, instructional videos, info about conventions and resources like the Opening Ode, downloadable graphics and business card templates... All at your fingertips.

What’s that, Beatrice?
I can’t believe you’ve never been to the P.E.O. website! It’s got important forms and documents. Why, you can even find the latest issue or peruse past issues of The P.E.O. Record there!
Zodiac Sisters
Chapter AZ, Little Rock, Arkansas, is large and growing. The program committee was looking for ways to introduce new members into the chapter when someone pointed out that it was equally important for “new” members to know something about “old” members too, thus the idea of Zodiac Sisters arose.

The membership was divided into the 12 zodiac periods. The week before each regular monthly meeting, a program committee member called each of the current “zodiac girls” and asked them to be prepared to tell a two- or three-minute story about themselves at the next meeting. At the meeting and before the “zodiac girls” talked, a program committee member read a short description of the personality characteristics of persons under that particular zodiac sign; then they told their stories.

This was a fun way for members to get to know one another.

Mistletoe Marketplace
In December 2013, Chapter BQ, Decatur, Georgia, held their second annual holiday fundraiser, Mistletoe Marketplace, at a member’s church. The Mistletoe Marketplace featured both a silent and live auction that offered items that were perfect gifts for sisters, friends or family members. Many of the contributions were handcrafted, either made by the sisters or purchased from galleries, independent artists or arts festivals. There were about 150 items, including framed photos taken by a member’s husband, handmade puppets, gourmet baskets, hand-knit scarves, unique pottery, hand-painted birdhouses and a variety of gift certificates. One sister donated her cooking skills to offer epicurean dinner parties. The chapter also offered fresh wreaths and baked goods, so members had fun beforehand making Williamsburg-style wreaths and a variety of baked delicacies, from gourmet cakes to individually packaged doggie treats. The young chapter, organized only two years ago, raised more than $6,000 for P.E.O. projects at the Mistletoe Marketplace. Members say, “We are so grateful to be able to help deserving women reach for the stars.”

Spectacular Sisterly Synergy
In November of 1979 a small group of P.E.O. sisters in Marshfield, Wisconsin, agreed they could take over the planning of a holiday art fair from the weary Marshfield Art Committee, whose limited numbers could no longer manage the massive effort this endeavor required. Members of Marshfield chapters AJ, CL and newly chartered CY spent many hours planning an enticing day geared for “hunters’ widows,” the ladies left behind when many of the local fellas chased deer in the woods on the Saturday before Thanksgiving.

In its early decades, the P.E.O. Boutique launched the Marshfield holiday season at a beautifully decorated country club, featuring an elegant brunch served to shoppers paying $1 each to browse through displays of local artists. Many members of the community looked forward to this opportunity to purchase upscale treasures and unique gifts for the holidays. Fresh pecans and baked goods, tasty cheese balls, poinsettias and items handcrafted by sisters were sold at their tables.
Also growing was the well-organized structure to make the boutique a project-profitable endeavor. Each of the four local chapters began assuming responsibility on a two-year rotation for one facet of the planning: chairing the event, the delicious holiday luncheon, contracting with 20 artists and extensive publicity. Chapters send representatives to meet with each of these committees throughout the year. This ensures that all P.E.O. members, in heart and spirit, share the camaraderie of working with new sisters toward our important common goal.

To that end, the results have been spectacular! As Marshfield P.E.O.s anticipate their 35th P.E.O. Holiday Boutique anniversary in November 2014, the four chapters have tallied the profits accumulated in the first 34 years. More than $320,000 has been collected to generously support women in education through the international projects. Marshfield P.E.O. stars shine brightly, radiating all light possible on behalf of the education of countless women through an incredible sisterly synergy.

**Wine Tasting and Silent Auction**
On a Sunday in December, Chapter CF, Denver, Colorado, hosted a wine tasting and silent auction fundraiser.

An international wine distributor donated all wines and introduced each wine tasted. Along with the wine tasting, guests browsed a silent auction collection including beautiful coats, artwork and many other donated items. Approximately 100 people attended the event. The chapter charged $20 per person to attend and raised $3,500 for P.E.O. projects. All sisters of the chapter contributed to the success of this event in any way they could.

**Herb Program & Fundraiser**
Chapter E, Nashville, Tennessee, was treated to a program by Joanne Slaughter about some of her favorite cuisine from her homegrown herbs.

Wine Tasting and Silent Auction

On a Sunday in December, Chapter CF, Denver, Colorado, hosted a wine tasting and silent auction fundraiser.

Carol Walton modeled one of the elegant coats donated for Chapter CF’s silent auction fundraiser.

Wine Tasting and Silent Auction

On a Sunday in December, Chapter CF, Denver, Colorado, hosted a wine tasting and silent auction fundraiser.

Joanne Slaughter presented a program on herbs to Chapter E, Tennessee.

Assisted by Liz Weller, Joanne served rosemary pecans, rosemary short-bread cookies, peach chutney, dill dip mix, hot red pepper jelly and hot mulled cider that included a spice mix made from Joanne’s garden.

Spectacular decorations made from lavender added to the ambience of the event. Joanne taught sisters how to make dried lavender bundles. The finishing touches included trimming the edges until perfectly even so the bundles could stand on their own. She finished the decorations by tying them with a wire-edged ribbon and gave directions for making a Lavender Wand, which should keep a drawer fragrant and repel moths in a closet.

The program included not only the history of the herbs being sampled but also recipes so sisters could make these gifts for Chapter E’s silent auction fundraiser. This cleverly planned idea brought in $1,670 for donations to the P.E.O. projects.

**Many Mixes**
The members of Chapter GF, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, wanted to strengthen the bonds of sisterhood by forming groups of special interests. After a survey, a sign-up sheet was developed and each member selected an area of interest, or several, that they would like to share with other like-minded sisters.

Many Mixes began in October 2013, starting with the Bridge Divas, followed by the Book Babes. Next came the Ladies Lunching meeting at old and new restaurants. Yard Birds formed for those with green thumbs and artists, painters, potters and sculptors organized a Masterpieces group. Sisters are also excited to enjoy the goodies provided by the Sisters of the Skillet group.

These mixes are not just fun, but have brought all the members of Chapter GF closer, growing in the spirit of the P.E.O. star.
Empowering Women Through Education

Thank you to chapters and individuals for your generous donations to the P.E.O. International educational projects.

Did you know...

In 2013, the following amounts were also distributed to the P.E.O. International educational projects from funds administered by the P.E.O. Foundation:

---

This chart represents the number of funds held in the P.E.O. Foundation benefiting the International educational projects.

*2012-13 Fiscal Year
**2013-14 Academic Year

Your gift to the P.E.O. educational projects or to the P.E.O. Foundation CAN make a difference for women pursuing their educational goals.
Your chapter makes an annual donation to the P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund, but when was the last time your chapter recommended a woman for an ELF loan? Sponsoring a woman for an ELF loan not only helps her reach her educational goal, but it helps your chapter maximize its donation dollars.

If you were told that you could make a 3,000 percent return on your investment with absolutely no risk, would you want to learn how? That’s nearly the return ratio the P.E.O. chapters of New York state made on their ELF project donations last year. In 2013, New York chapters sponsored 19 women for ELF loans. Those loans totaled nearly 30 times more than the amount New York chapters donated to ELF. How is that possible?

ELF is the oldest philanthropy in our sisterhood—107 years strong and counting. The fund balance is determined by chapter donations, loan repayments and investment income. The more students recommended by a chapter for a loan, the greater the return on the chapter ELF donation, and the greater the return for a state or province. That’s how $1 can potentially turn into $30 or more for a loan recipient.

Make it a chapter goal this year to maximize your chapter donation. Recommend a qualified woman for an ELF loan. Become ELF educated. The ELF page of the International website has documents for short, informative chapter programs, a brief history of ELF and, of course, complete information on identifying, interviewing and recommending loan candidates. There is even an ELF flyer which can be printed to help ELF candidates find your chapter. The ELF flyer can be taken to college financial aid offices or posted in areas like the college library, dorms or local churches.

Students may borrow up to $12,000 or up to $20,000 for doctoral degrees. A student may be enrolled in school either full or part time. Most degrees from accredited institutions will qualify, including technical and online degrees. A student who is granted an ELF loan receives the money herself and makes her own financial decisions. She may use it to cover any of the costs associated with obtaining her education.

Someone in each chapter knows of a woman who is in college. Chances are good that this student is borrowing money to pay for her education. When members of a chapter become ELF educated, they are better equipped to inform these women of the benefits of our Sisterhood’s loan program.

When was the last time your chapter recommended a woman for an ELF loan?
A Message from the Cottey President

Reflections

by Judy Rogers, Ph.D., President, Cottey College

When my sons were young and Glenn and I would take them to a play, a show or some other special event, the same question would always surface on the way home. Someone would ask, “What was your favorite part?” Then we would start describing our favorites, and soon the whole event would be relived. We are to the stage of reflecting on A Defining Moment: The Campaign for Cottey College. Naturally, I started by asking myself what were my favorite parts?

Very high on my list of favorites was the opportunity to visit hundreds of P.E.O. sisters in various parts of the United States and Canada during the campaign awareness events. There were 96 events in all, and I attended many of them. The hospitality was consistently welcoming. It was an added pleasure when P.E.O.s brought along their BILs, and I had the opportunity to share news of Cottey. Often, I sensed that I was bringing new information and that Cottey was becoming more “real” to those who had not visited campus. I always enjoyed the questions that followed my comments. I was always glad when someone, often a BIL, asked me how large our endowment was, and I could respond with the current amount and add, “And we have no debt!” I could count on applause.

Also making my “favorites” list was the gradual development of BIL involvement. Glenn and I invited BILs to a Coffee and Conversation during the Saint Louis International Convention, and the turnout and the conversation were great. Albert Leffler (BIL of Kathy Leffler, BA, Scottsdale, Arizona) wrote about the gathering for The P.E.O. Record. His comments provided an interesting perspective and he was invited to submit additional articles. Soon he turned to other BILs for ideas and comments. Now Albert’s column appears regularly.

I cannot omit from my “favorite parts” the opportunity I had to meet Cottey alumnae. There were alumnae present at every event I attended, and I regularly turned to them for spontaneous comments about Cottey. These comments were passionate, expressing a depth of loyalty that was impressive.

Finally, topping my “favorite parts” list was sharing the joy of donors who chose to make a gift to Cottey. These donors clearly exhibited the joy of giving, and I vicariously shared that joy. What a thrill it was to receive a check or a pledge accompanied by smiles and positive expectations of the benefit of their gifts. That was my favorite part.
IPS Is Helping a Dream Come True

by Deborah H. Taylor, International Peace Scholarship Board of Trustees

“For some people it might be silly to talk about dreams nowadays, considering that there are enough obligations to handle in such a busy world,” was how IPS recipient Sandra Naranjo began her personal statement. Sandy’s dream was to pursue a Master of Public Policy with a specialization in economic development in the United States. In May 2014, she expects to receive her Master of Public Administration with a specialization in international development from Harvard University and then return home to Ecuador to pick up where she left off, aiding in Ecuador’s development.

How did a young girl from Ecuador with an affinity for mathematics come to have such a dream? One might say, it was meant to be. Sandy’s parents taught her that the greatest legacy they could leave her is education. Her father, an engineer, taught his daughters numbers. Numbers became her “game partners” that she played with on long car trips or while waiting for buses. So, with this affinity for numbers it was no surprise that Sandy excelled in mathematics. In fact, her university professors remember her as the economics student who outperformed the engineering students in mathematics courses.

Sandy studied economics and finance at the Universidad San Francisco de Quito. When she was finishing her bachelor’s degree in 2002, she told her economics professor that she wanted to begin studying for her master’s degree immediately after graduation. He laughed and told her to calm down, life was not a sprint. He advised her that there were many things that she needed to see and learn before going on to graduate school.

Sandy is very grateful for that advice because that economics professor was Rafael Correa who in November 2006 was elected President of Ecuador. In recognition for being his best student, President Correa offered Sandy the opportunity to work for him. In February 2007, at the age of 21, Sandy became President Correa’s chief of staff. She spent five years working with him in what she characterizes as “the most wonderful job I could ever imagine.” As President Correa’s chief of staff, Sandy worked with him on special assignments, such as researching topics related to economics and finance. She prepared all his presentations including the annual reports to the Ecuadorian Senate, as well as preparing the executive summaries of all the cabinet reports sent to him.

During her time working for Ecuador, Sandy developed a special commitment to her country. She recognizes that Ecuador needs young professionals like herself who love their country and are willing to “give their best to transform it.” She knows that with her experience working in the government coupled with the education she is receiving at Harvard University with the help of her IPS Scholarship, she will be better able to serve her country when she returns. She cannot imagine doing anything different. She is anxious to return home and apply what she has experienced and learned “in an effort to be part of the solution of Ecuadorian problems.”

Sandy Says “Thank You”

In an email to the IPS board of trustees, Sandy said, “Above all, I want to communicate my gratitude to P.E.O. for supporting me during this time. The financial resources have been extremely helpful for me. But also thank you to all the sisters in peace that always sent me letters or notes to cheer me up and support my studies. I was not always able to answer all of them but it had an impact on me to know they had faith in me.”
To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education, Chapter CL, Palm Desert, California, asked Elizabeth Boyington to present a program. Elizabeth, a P.E.O. since 1941, and a past president of Washington State Chapter, is uniquely qualified to share the story of the origins of PCE. Not only did she serve during the two pilot study years, she was appointed its first chairman in 1973.

Elizabeth Boyington is proud of Chapter CL’s enthusiastic support of PCE. At age 94, she continues to be an active member of P.E.O. and a staunch supporter of PCE. She joyfully stated “what a great achievement it is to realize that by fall of 2013 more than 38,000 women have benefited from more than 43.5 million dollars in PCE grant awards.”

One such woman is Marceil Gradwohl. Kathy Dice, Chapter NR, O’Fallon, Illinois, was visiting her childhood home in Roeland Park, Kansas, when a sewing project involving daisy print material prompted the exchange of stories about her membership in P.E.O. and her mother’s connection to the early years of PCE.

A 1957 graduate of Heidelberg College in Tiffin, Ohio, Marceil began a teaching career that was put on hold by marriage and family. Following a divorce in the mid 1970s, which left her struggling to support her five children, she returned to teaching. But it wasn’t long before she realized that a master’s degree would be necessary for both job security and to qualify for a raise in pay.

With a family budget already stretched thin, Marceil covered her educational expenses by purchasing $100 worth of food stamps for $50 every other month, stretching the food budget to last two months rather than one, and using the $50 in the alternate months to pay for school. As she neared her goal, Marceil found it necessary to apply for a $400 loan to cover the last of her classes. But loans were considered income and, as such, accepting it would mean a reduction in the family’s food stamp benefits.

While attending one of her son’s little league baseball games, Marceil shared her struggles with another mother, who, as fate would have it, was a P.E.O. Through chapter sponsorship, she was awarded a PCE grant, but once again, the state welfare office considered it income. Deciding to take matters into her own hands, Marceil wrote to the governor of Kansas, explaining her situation and her commitment to completing an educational program that would allow her to support her family without government assistance. Within the week, Marceil received notice that she could accept the PCE grant without a loss in benefits.

Marceil Gradwohl credits a $400 grant, awarded during the very early years of the P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education, for not only making all the difference in her own educational journey, but for allowing her to create the legacy of learning that extends to her five children and 17 grandchildren.

Elizabeth Boyington’s closing remarks to her Chapter CL sisters echo those of the thousands of women whose lives have been made better through an education made possible, in part, by a P.E.O. grant, and the support of the P.E.O.s who fund them: “Thank you, P.E.O., for helping the dream of an education become a reality for so many women.”

Correction: In the March-April PCE article, Lynne Ebner’s name was misspelled. We apologize for the error.
When you think of the P.E.O. Scholar Awards (PSA), you think about doctoral-level degrees, dissertations or clinical rotations. But there’s another side to the project and that’s the numbers that are involved in the making of a Scholar from inception to selection!

Besides knowing a candidate personally through a family member or friend, one of the other most successful ways to find a Scholar Award candidate is to meet with the dean of graduate studies or department head at a college or university which offers doctoral-level degrees. They may provide a list of several students who meet the criteria of PSA. Not all of these women may be competitive during the selection process, so it’s up to the chapter’s Scholar Awards committee to determine which of these women would be worthy of a nomination. Through personal or Skype interviews the committee can usually narrow the list down to the most outstanding 1 to 3 doctoral candidates. (Note: Although there is not a limit to the number a chapter may nominate, you will want to select the women you feel will be the most competitive to present to your chapter.)

When you have narrowed your choices down to your very best candidates, the names are presented to the chapter for a vote. Those candidates receiving chapter approval are then nominated with a one-page letter through the online nomination system on the PSA webpage. The 90-day nomination window is open from August 20 through November 20.

Once the nomination letter is received by the P.E.O. Executive Office, a link to the P.E.O. online portal is sent to the nominee. She must then fill out the application online, arrange for three letters of recommendation from her professors or advisers and provide transcripts for all of her higher education schools. She has a maximum of 45 days to complete this process.

After the applications have been successfully submitted, they are uploaded into the system and made available to the Scholar Awards Board of Trustees. Each year more than 500 applications are reviewed by each of the three trustees. A typical application is approximately 25-40 pages in length and takes anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour to accurately review.

The Scholar Awards trustees meet each year in March to select the exceptional 85 women chosen to receive a Scholar Award. Each Scholar will receive an award of $15,000. That’s a total of $1,275,000 given each year to these deserving women.

The P.E.O. Scholar Awards Board of Trustees thanks you for your financial support to make this dream a reality for these women and for your continued efforts in finding qualified candidates. 😊

Remember, P.E.O. Scholar Awards are “SUPPORTING WOMEN ... CHANGING THE WORLD.”
STAR

P.E.O.: The Great Connector

by Ann Davidson, Chairman, P.E.O. STAR Scholarship Board of Trustees

Special thanks to Jackie’s grandmother, Kae Lynn Bousquet Durham Caston, EB, Farmington, Minnesota, for family information.

Minnesota’s Chapter EB, P.E.O. STAR Scholarship recipient Jacqueline Caston graduated from her Lakeville, Minnesota, high school in 2009. After receiving her invitation to membership in P.E.O., Jackie wrote the following in her acceptance letter to the chapter, “I would be honored to join P.E.O. both because of the lovely women that I have met and because of the important and worthy cause that this organization promotes. Like my grandma, aunts, cousins and relatives before me who have devoted themselves to the philanthropic cause of assisting women in completing their education, I want to be a part of something where I can help to make that difference. From what I’ve seen, P.E.O. is like a family and I believe that the success of the organization lies in the sisterly bonds that women form, allowing them to combine their unique talents for a shared goal. To have women all across the nation, and even across the ocean working and cooperating as one large sisterhood to help those in need is remarkable and inspirational.” Jackie was initiated into her grandmother’s chapter, EB, Farmington, Minnesota, on August 13, 2009, 140 years after her great-great-great-grandmother, Hattie Briggs (Bousquet), stood with the other six Founders around the table on that momentous day in 1869. Jackie is the 15th member of her family to be initiated into P.E.O. encompassing five generations. That fall Jackie was admitted into the Honors Program at the University of Minnesota, majoring in psychology and journalism. She worked for several years as a research assistant in the psychology department. Her honors thesis, the relations between different ways of thinking about the control we do or do not have over what happens to us and the types of outcomes we experience after different types of traumatic events, will soon be submitted to journals for publishing. Additionally, she completed training as a violence prevention educator in order to prevent sexual assault, domestic abuse and other forms of violence on campus. Jackie graduated summa cum laude from the University of Minnesota in psychology May 2013. She is currently a Ph.D. student in the graduate counseling psychology program at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas. Jackie’s present research involves studying factors relating to personal growth and positive outcomes following traumatic events or stress and meeting with clients at the clinic. Currently she is involved with the Graduate Organization of Counseling Psychology Students and serves as fundraising chair.

These additional thoughts were shared by Jackie, “While our abilities and actions may differ, if we embrace this shared compassion for those around us, we become the whole that we are meant to be. By collectively engaging in an effort to improve the lives of women in their communities,

“By collectively engaging in an effort to improve the lives of women in their communities, the sisters of P.E.O. are embodying the difference they would like to see.”

—Jackie Caston

Correction: Chapter CN, Texas, should have been included on the STAR page in the March-April issue of The Record. They had a STAR scholarship recipient initiated into P.E.O. prior to December 31, 2013. We apologize for the omission.
From Project Recipient to Treasured P.E.O. Sister
by Sandy Booth, Regional Membership Representative

Our P.E.O. sisterhood takes great pride in our six philanthropies, which provide educational opportunities for women around the world. Local chapters identify qualified and worthy women who become our P.E.O. project recipients, some whom also become our treasured P.E.O. sisters.

Through the years, more than 2,800 project recipients have become contributing members of our sisterhood. Local chapters have not only given these project recipients educational opportunities, but have also given them the gift of P.E.O. membership.

“Receiving scholarships from the P.E.O. Sisterhood was an amazing experience,” said Christine MacIntyre, 2014 Cottey College graduate, P.E.O. scholarship recipient and member of Chapter BA, Gresham, Oregon. “Knowing that there was a group of incredible women supporting me meant so much during my time at Cottey and continues now that I am a member. When my chapter invited me to become a P.E.O., I was honored to become a part of the organization that had given me, and so many other young women, the opportunities to pursue higher education.”

Introducing P.E.O. project recipients to your local chapter is a wonderful opportunity to grow your membership. Simply Follow These Two Easy Steps

Step 1: Get to know your recipient and tell her about P.E.O.

Getting to know the prospective member well is part of the sponsoring and invitation process. If the recipient is not already familiar with P.E.O., consider telling her about our organization.
- Tell her how long you’ve been a member and what you like about chapter life.
- Emphasize the importance P.E.O. places upon fellowship and caring concerns for our sisters.
- Introduce her to all of the P.E.O. projects.
- Encourage her to visit the public side of the P.E.O. website.
- Give her a copy of The Record. Remember it is okay to talk about P.E.O.!” Talking about our organization helps us find new members as well as project recipients.

Step 2: Introduce your P.E.O. recipient to a local chapter

If the recipient lives in your community:
- Introduce her to your chapter by inviting her to a social activity or a chapter program. You could also invite her to coffee or lunch with other chapter members.

If the recipient lives in another part of our sisterhood:
- Fill out the Introduction to a Woman Not a P.E.O form and send it to chapters in the area where she lives. This document is available as a fill and print form in the Local Chapter Membership Committee tool box on the P.E.O. website.
- “I became a P.E.O. sister this past spring,” said PSA Project Recipient Elizabeth Andrews, Chapter VA, Irvine, California. “I’ve loved the cards, letters and words of encouragement from sisters at the local and state level. They have been fantastic—inviting me to events, extending an offer of membership, and now I’m attending meetings as a P.E.O. sister.”

Project recipients who share the qualities we value in P.E.O. and support our philanthropic purpose are wonderful candidates for membership. Many are eager to return the favor once they become a sister.

“A family friend introduced me to P.E.O. while I was still in graduate school,” PCE and ELF project recipient Sheri-Ann Dennis, Chapter G, Kailua, Hawaii, said. “Since my initiation in 1998, I have served in several offices including president. I introduced my mother to P.E.O. and she is now an active member of my chapter.”
Linda Merlino, G, Ridgefield, Connecticut, wrote “Room of Tears,” her third novel on the delicate canvas of 9/11. The story is a fictional account of a firefighter’s widow after the tragedy. It begins four decades after September 11, 2001, in Queens, New York, where a note still hangs on a kitchen cabinet—the paper yellowed with age. Diane O’Connor, the story’s protagonist, knows the scribbled sentences by heart; she’d left them the morning of 9/11 for her husband, Billy. In the summer of 2041, Diane invites Friar Antonio Ortiz to her home. He is a man destined to become counsel to the first American pope—her son, Peter. Antonio asks no questions and arrives in secret, promising to wait 19 years before passing Diane’s journal to Peter. Only then will Billy’s story be told, along with answers to Peter’s questions about his father’s last days. “Room of Tears” final pages go outside the ordinary and ask readers to believe in miracles.

Linda began writing fiction as a young mother on the sidelines of endless soccer practices. Many years have passed since those early beginnings, but her work continues to be inspired by her children. The author has a fascination with heroes and writes her fiction to honor ordinary men and women who react unselfishly in extraordinary circumstances. She extends her gratitude to all who keep us safe and free. Her hometown is outside of Boston. She lived for many years in New York City and more recently calls Ridgefield, Connecticut, her home.

Caroline Hartman, BF, West Chester, Pennsylvania, wrote “Summer Rose.” During America’s Civil War, author Caroline Hartman’s great grandfather fought with the Army of the Potomac from June 1861 to June 1864. He left behind an honorable account in his detailed diary of the years spent with the Army of the Potomac. Hartman first read the diary—in his own handwriting—while taking an American history course at Penn State. After graduating she taught elementary school, raised a family and has been a constant student of the American Civil War. She read hundreds of history books and dragged her children through battlefields, cemeteries and museums. She walked the fields of Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, listened for the drums, and felt the pride and the heartache. This was the inspiration for her first novel, “Summer Rose.”

Laura Muntz Derr, AU, Maryville, Tennessee, wrote “Nick and Viola: A Kentucky Family Tragedy in the Tobacco Wars (1904-1911).” “Nick and Viola” is a family story that illuminates a neglected period of Kentucky history and traces its impact on three generations of the Muntz family. In 1899, Nick and Viola Muntz, Kentucky landowners and tobacco farmers, had a bright future. By 1904 the American Tobacco Company (ATC) monopolized the market for tobacco and dropped prices below the cost of production. Populist groups formed to “pool” or hold tobacco off the market to force higher prices. Because pooling was voluntary, tensions arose between neighbors who pooled and those who didn’t. Vigilante groups known as “Night Riders” attacked barns and crops, and sometimes even their neighbors who refused to pool. Nick and Viola and their relatives did not join the pool and suffered the consequences. A tobacco barn burned, a gunshot killed an innocent man and a family fell apart.

Laura began the book as a history of her paternal great grandparents, but found herself writing an elegy for the world of tobacco she experienced as a child growing up in Kentucky in the 1950s. Laura is a retired teacher and marketing professional living in East Tennessee. She taught college English for 15 years in Virginia, Texas and Iowa. While raising a family in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, she and her husband owned and operated a marketing research business for 17 years. She is grateful for retirement which has given her the eight years required to research and write this book.

Sara LeBien, CR, Bloomington, Indiana, wrote “Our Immune System,” to help young children, their parents and adult patients cope with primary immuno-deficiency diseases (PID) and to better understand their immune system. Through illustrations and uncomplicated, but medically sophisticated text, “Our Immune System” explains how a normal immune system works and what treatments may be necessary when the system is deficient.

Sara’s son Mike suffered from frequent illnesses, infections and hospitalizations until he was a junior in high school when he was diagnosed with PID which then led to proper treatment. Her son, who is not cured of the disease and continues treatment, is now 50, married and a father who is doing well.
Carolyn Maddux, B, Shelton, Washington, wrote “Care: A Hospital for Mason County” to record the history and capture stories chronicling the history of Mason County’s health care. The pages of Carolyn’s book are filled with fascinating facts and stories, from the herbal remedies of the Salish people to Shelton’s first hospital that catered to loggers and railroad workers, and the transition to Mason General Hospital in the late 1960s. The book is the story of healthcare in Mason County: the patients who are served and the teams of healthcare professionals who, through their patience, perseverance and compassion, have laid the foundation for a sound and thriving healthcare network that serves the entire community. In addition, “Care” encapsulates the history and evolution of healthcare, its development in Mason County and in the context of the larger community served.

Carolyn worked as a reporter and editor of the Shelton-Mason County Journal and served on the Shelton School Board for several years. In addition to writing the history of Mason County’s health care, she has written two books of poetry. Carolyn currently teaches creative writing at Olympic College in Shelton.

Susan Haller, W, Las Vegas, Nevada, co-authored Judith August’s “Gotcha Covered: The Compact Guide to Camouflage Makeup.” The book is an at-home manual for everyone who wants to cover and conceal cosmetic challenges. From simple annoying flaws to serious coverage, this colorful book is the educational “go to” for learning the art of camouflage makeup.


Maxine S. Heath, IG, Marble Falls, Texas, collaborated with her former student Allen F. Sanborn to write “The Cicadas of North America North of Mexico.” The book is the first of its kind, bringing together all of the known species in the United States and Canada. Each of the 16 genera is described and pictured with diagnostic characteristics depicted by arrows on both dorsal and ventral drawings. Each species is pictured in color with 150 of the pictures taken from the holotypes, the individual specimen from which the species was originally described. For each species the authors give a history of its nomenclature, its geographical distribution and where reference specimens may be found. The book should be useful to anyone interested in the insects singing in the back yard. It will be valuable to scientists and to amateurs as a field guide.

Maxine has degrees in English and library science from UCLA and recently returned to school at the University of Florida, where she earned a second master’s degree and a Ph.D. in entomology. She retired from the University of Illinois and now lives in Buchanan Dam, Texas. Her mother and aunt were P.E.O.s as are two of her daughters.

Anne Bingham, C, Burlington, Vermont, wrote “Stars in the Window” for young readers, but it is equally appealing to adults. A young girl’s friendship with a Japanese lady who had been in one of the internment camps in the U.S. in WW II, and the conflicts the girl experiences with very opinionated townspeople, provides a chance for her compassion and maturity to develop. With dialogue that makes the characters true to life, Anne provokes the reader into the minds of civilians of the day, and shows the girl’s constructive approach to developing this relationship.

Anne grew up in Boulder, Colorado, and taught for many years at the Shelburne Village School in Vermont. She joined her mother-in-law and later her sister-in-law in Chapter C.

Nan Walton, AH, Bountiful, Utah, wrote “Partners: Everyday Working Dogs Being Heroes Every Day.” The book highlights working dogs’ lives by showing the unique level of interspecies symbiosis in working dog teams.

From a fanatic police Malinois to a demure therapy cocker spaniel, readers will be inspired by the symbiotic bond forged through training and daily experience that creates unparalleled partnerships that work together to save lives. Instinct-driven behaviors that are primal to a dog’s very existence can enable an emotional bond like no other. Readers will develop a new level of respect for the everyday working dogs that live next door as they read these stories that are told firsthand by the human partners of these amazing working teams.

“Partners” celebrates the diversity of the canine contribution through heartwarming stories of loyalty, perseverance and courage.
Penny Raile, MP, Los Angeles, California, co-authored “The Art of Zantangle,” 50 inspiring drawings, designs and ideas for the meditative artist. A “maker of stuff,” certified Zentangle® teacher and artist Penny Raile is known for her whimsical projects that range from cardboard cuckoo clocks to WhimBots crafted from thrift-store finds. Her downtown Los Angeles loft with its turquoise-stained floor and hand-painted walls reflects an eclectic mix of paintings, sewn dolls and creatures, polymer clay objects, and dioramas. Her drawers are full of found objects waiting to be turned into arms or legs for her newest creation. Penny loves color and things that make people smile. She brings her special brand of creativity to all of her professional pursuits, including her many years in fundraising and development for nonprofit organizations.

Her projects and events have delighted countless children for whom art is a rare experience.

Jean Saxton, X, Oskaloosa, Iowa, wrote “The Savvy Sojourner,” in which she shares the expertise she gained from 13 years as a shop owner and 33 years as an antique dealer. Part memoir, part antiquing guide, “The Savvy Sojourner” is perfect for readers looking to start their own collections, collectors looking for ideas on how to incorporate their finds into their home décor or anyone who loves to hear about fun antiquing adventures. Jean was born and raised in Ida Grove, Iowa. She now lives in Oskaloosa, where she spends her time antiquing and decorating her home, which she shares with her rescue dog Sophie. Jean has two children and seven grandchildren.

Debra Atkinson, NK, Ames, Iowa, wrote the ebook “Navigating Fitness After 50: Your GPS for Programs and Professionals You Can Trust.”

This book shares with readers what, how and who you can trust in the world of exercise. It will tell you what to expect, demand, ask and what to run from. It’s a peek behind the scenes from a trainer. This is not an exercise program though there are links to exercises videos. It’s not a list of to-do’s but is a conversation starter and a shopping list for visiting your local fitness center. Readers will be armed and empowered with the information about what to do with a lower back issue, avoiding or treating osteoporosis and more or, just maintaining your optimal vitality in your second half.

If you’re already exercising, “Navigating Fitness After 50” will serve as a reference to how your program measures up and where you might improve it to improve results.

Debra is a 28-year veteran of the fitness industry, a prior University Senior Lecturer in Kinesiology, an International Fitness Presenter, Group Fitness Instructor & Manager, Personal Trainer, Personal Training Director and author.

Marsha Sandoval, CP, Chandler, Arizona, wrote “Cat House: Adventures of a Real Estate Madam,” where she introduces readers to Niki Brooks, a Manolo-clad heroine who finds unique financial opportunities during the great recession. As a luxury home real estate broker trying to survive one of the worst bubble bursts in 30 years, Niki is barely hanging on. With her own house under threat of foreclosure and her retirement holding worthless, Niki turns from selling houses to selling the world’s oldest profession. While Marsha’s book deals with risqué subject matters, she notes it’s really about the journey Niki takes to survive.

Marsha has held a real estate license for 35 years. She lives in Chandler, Arizona, with her husband of 30 years. They have three children, one daughter-in-law, three grandchildren and a five-pound Yorkie.

Lynda Tod, FJ, Manistee, Michigan, wrote and illustrated a children’s book called “Kirb’ Appeal.” It was written in response to the loss of two special
friends—one with two legs and one with four—and is a celebration of the magic they shared with the author.

“‘Kerb’ Appeal” is the story of Kirby, a homeless cat who is the color of sweet potato pie and has whiskers that dance like starry skies. Unsuccessful at finding a home, he begins to doubt his curb appeal and makes plans to implement changes. During the planning stages he discovers that he never needed to make any changes and finds his home by being himself.

Lynda is an artist and first-time author. She graduated from Saginaw Valley State University.

Joan Blacher, UM, Camarillo, California, has published the third of her mystery novels, “Death on the Run” in which protagonist Ardis Jensen, a university psychology professor, is drawn into the homicide investigation of another psychology professor and highly regarded colleague who became the victim of a hit-and-run driver.

Joan, a licensed psychotherapist in private practice for 23 years, is a California Lutheran University Professor Emerita, having served as the director of counseling and guidance in the School of Education for 11 years. Prior to her academic position, she taught elementary school and served as a school psychologist in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

She has lectured and given workshops on writing and psychological and educational topics throughout the United States. In addition to her membership in the American Psychological Association, Sisters in Crime and Mystery Writers of America, she has served on community boards that provide services to troubled children and families, including the Ventura County Mental Health Board. She received a B.A. in history from the University of California Berkeley and an M.S. in counseling and Ph.D. in educational psychology from the University of Southern California.

Joan and her husband live in a rural agricultural community in Ventura County. They have three grown sons.

Esther Kreek, GY, Kansas City, Missouri, wrote “The Shadow of Al: Our Family’s Journey with Alzheimer’s.” In caring for her husband for 10 years, Esther learned a lot. She thought some of it might be helpful to others on their journey. Joining a support group was an important part of it, sharing ideas with other caregivers was necessary. Esther felt that keeping a journal was therapy for her. Based on that, she decided to write the book.

Esther has been a musician, a teacher, a motivational speaker and author. She was on the speaker’s bureau for the Alzheimer’s Association, has been a volunteer for Court Appointed Special Advocate and is involved with her church.

Constance Maxwell, I, Oxford, Mississippi, wrote “Kindergarten Explores Science,” in response to a kindergarten teacher’s request for science lessons for her class. Although Constance was teaching high school chemistry and physics at the time, she began writing laboratory directions for five-year-olds. With science equipment and printed directions in hand, Constance delivered frequent lessons to kindergarten teachers, who then led their classes to play with “pull-back” toys to see what made them operate. The kindergarteners were very excited to see that the sun could run their solar-powered toys.

The excitement of sparks flying from a Wimshurst machine, the mystery of toy spiders crawling down a wall, the temptation to pick up a pig that’s only an image, and the sight of overlapping images in Iceland spar are all shown with photographs and accompanying descriptions.

Constance, who taught high school math and science courses for 49 years, retired in May 2013. A widow, she now lives with one of her adult grandsons.

Mary McIntyre Coley, FP, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, wrote “Cobwebs—a suspense novel,” a book about buried memories and family secrets set in Osage County, Oklahoma.

When Jamie Aldrich was 11 years old she spent the summer with her great aunt Elizabeth. She doesn’t remember what happened during that visit and she’s avoided Pawhuska, Oklahoma, ever since. But when Elizabeth calls her 30 years later, begging her to come, Jamie arrives to find her great aunt frail and agitated, inexplicably claiming that her entire life was a sham. Elizabeth lies in a coma after what looks like an attempt on her life. Jamie has no idea who would want to harm her aunt and it’s clear that the danger hasn’t passed. Will Jamie be able to discover the truth before both she and Elizabeth are silenced forever?

Mary, recently retired from work as a communications officer for the city of Tulsa, is now writing fiction as well as nonfiction environmental education materials. She has bachelor and master’s degrees from Oklahoma State University. Mary has been a member of three P.E.O. chapters in Oklahoma—Enid, Ponca City and Broken Arrow.
Lt. Marie Timm, AW, Clarkston, Michigan, is a fourth generation P.E.O. and granddaughter of past president of Michigan state chapter Grace Cornish. Currently deployed to Afghanistan, Marie is a 2011 graduate of the United States Military Academy (U.S.M.A.) at West Point. She received the U.S.M.A. Superintendents Award for Excellence and played on the National Championship Women’s Rugby team. She now serves as an executive officer for her engineer troop in the 2nd Cavalry Regiment.

Marie has always been a compassionate person who leads by example. She recently noticed that while she received many packages from home, others did not. While items received are generously shared, it is not the same thing as being remembered by name. She sent a list of names with specific items they would like to Chapter AW, Clarkston, Michigan, via her mom, Barb Timm, also a Chapter AW member. Her P.E.O. sisters jumped into action sending out personalized packages within a month.

Marie describes her service in the army as follows: “I know my mission is to first serve God, to second serve the soldiers who will be working with me, and to third do everything I can to bring them home better people leaving a better place.”

Carrie S. Swift, FT, Walla Walla, Washington, received a national award for “Diabetes Educator of the Year” from the Diabetes Care and Education (DCE) dietician practice group of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (formerly American Dietetic Association). DCE is one of the largest academy practice groups with almost 6,000 members. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics is the largest food and nutrition professional organization in the United States with more than 75,000 members.

The award was presented at the Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo, the Academy’s annual meeting, in October 2013 in Houston, Texas.

Carrie holds a Bachelor of Science degree in food science human nutrition from Washington State University and a Master of Science in human nutrition also from Washington State University. She is a registered dietitian, certified diabetes educator and is board certified in advanced diabetes management. She works at Kadlec Regional Medical Center in Richland, Washington. Carrie enjoys working with clients with diabetes to help them discover their own path to successful diabetes management.

Carol Ortega, FD, Sierra Vista, Arizona, was the oldest female finisher of the Bisbee 1,000 Stair Climb. At 82, Carol completed the rigorous event with her friends, family and P.E.O. sisters cheering her on. The Bisbee 1,000 Great Stair Climb Fundraiser is the only outdoor stair climb in the United States and arguably one of the most unique and challenging events in the world. The course features nine staircases connected by winding roads that take participants through some of the most scenic parts of Old Bisbee.

Toots Green, AO, Alamogordo, New Mexico, was presented with the Gold Cross of Honor of the Bundeswehr signed by Thomas de Maiziere, Federal Minister of Defense on October 25, 2013. This is the highest honor the German Military can bestow upon a civilian. Toots was recognized for her efforts on behalf of the German Air Force Training Mission located at Holloman Air Force Base near Alamogordo, New Mexico.

Toots is past chairman of the P.E.O. Foundation Board of Trustees and past president of the New Mexico state chapter of P.E.O. Toots has also served as a Representative in the New Mexico State Legislature and was a member of the Spaceport America Board of Directors. She is a past president of the Alamogordo Chamber of Commerce and past chair of the Committee of 50 of the Chamber of Commerce. 😊
Chapter JG, Big Spring, Texas
Organized: February 8, 2014
First row, from the left: Andrea Barr, Molly Smith, Brenna Hoff, Lisa Dunnam  Second row: Meredith Skaggs, Susan Holstedt, Stacy Barr, Ann Duncan  Third row: Dalia Benavides, Debbie Wegman  Fourth row: Angela Woolley, Sara Myers, Heather Williams  Fifth row: Robin Ritchey, state organizer Barbie Earthman, Peggy Hopper, Ann McClarty

Chapter AM-DV, Tampa, Florida
Merged: March 1, 2014
First row, from the left: Jacquie Bronson, Lucile Robinson, Judy Paes, Fran Carrillo, Marcia Stein, Connie Mosley, Vivian Karas, Pat Bunch  Second row: Joanne Harvey, Marilyn Cowell, Viola Leone, Pat Riggs, Patty Bodden, Julie Williams, Lara Bauer, Marion Brodarick, Chris Davidson, Roma Plimmer, Nancy Bremmer, Edith Wilson  Third row: Linda Bauer, Anita Tannuzzo, Betty Neville, Beverly Plett, Lisa Coghan, Nancy Shepler, Caroline Collier, Patricia Degan, Jo Spear-Brown, Peggy Newton

Chapter AB, Weirton, West Virginia
Organized: March 9, 2014
First row, from the left: Kimberly Malinky, Claudia Sweger, Linda Cowan, Leigh Scherich, Stacey McAllister, Joann Shaffer, Paula Rogers, Jacqueline Scott  Second row: Karen Cooper, Loretta Suitlas, Melanie Cecchini, Mary Anderson  Third row: Marianne Cunningham, Jean Bonar, Andrea Salatino, Janis Potts, Paula Boram
Chapter AR, San Diego, California
Organized: April 9, 1914
Celebrated: April 9, 2014

Chapter E, Superior, Wisconsin
Organized: May 11, 1914
Celebration: May 15, 2014
First row, from the left: Esther Anderson, Crystal Hintzman, Julie Ford, Beth Lisak, Cathy Hecht Second row: Arlene Eaton, Carol Banker, Ann Novack, Laura Kremer, Roberta Lindemann, Carol Baker Third row: Wendy Maas, Susan Horvath, Eileen McDonald, Lori Foley, Janice Letsos, Gloria Neuman, Patricia Bergman, Vivian Markley, Janice Parish, Beverly Underdale, Mary Jo Bartylla, Kathy Berchild, Deborah Bergstrom, Deborah Lucci, Nancy Holmes, Myrtle Rogina, Monica Tikkanen, Rebecca Kirk

Chapter AA, Woodward, Oklahoma
Organized: March 7, 1914
Celebrated: March 7, 2014

Chapter AQ, Santa Clara, California
Organized: April 1, 1914
Celebrated: April 5, 2014
Guidelines
Ads are limited to those for fundraising projects for P.E.O. or for items and services directly relating to the organization, which are not available elsewhere. Payment shall be made to sponsoring chapter, not to an individual. Reader ads are available to members only and must include chapter identification. Send all information to mknee@peodsm.org three months preceding the month of issue.

Rates and Billing:
$5 per line, per insertion, to be billed after publication. Chapters running insertions for a year or longer may submit a digital photo to appear on the website with the information at an extra cost of $10 per year.

Members may view all Items for sale at https://members.peointernational.org/news-events/record/items-sale
Every two years, after Convention of International Chapter, a review of all documentation—forms, manuals, handbooks, printed media and web content—is conducted to ensure all information is current. For local chapter members, you can find many of these updated documents on the P.E.O. website, using the links in the left side menu Local Chapter Forms and Manuals and Handbooks.

On the Manuals and Handbooks page, accessed from the left side menu, are some commonly used manuals for local chapters, such as the 2013 P.E.O. Constitution, Counsel Booklet for Membership and Instructions to Officers of Local Chapters (IOLC).

For manuals like IOLC, a list of updated pages is also posted—PDF (January 2014 Page Updates).

For local chapter officers who only want the section for their specific office, IOLC is posted in sections. ▶

### January 2014 IOLC Page Updates (Pages Referenced Apply to IOLC Complete PDF)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Document/Section Pages</th>
<th>PDF Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cover Page &amp; Table of Contents</td>
<td>Pages 3, 5, 6, 8</td>
<td>Pages 1 to 3 of 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Pages 3, 5, 6, 8</td>
<td>Pages 6, 8, 9, 11 of 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recording Secretary</td>
<td>Page 2</td>
<td>Page 15 of 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corresponding Secretary</td>
<td>Page 7</td>
<td>Page 24 of 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Pages 3, 4, 6</td>
<td>Pages 29, 30, 32 of 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policies</td>
<td>Pages 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 13, 15</td>
<td>Pages 39, 40, 43, 44, 45, 47, 51, 53 of 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibit A</td>
<td></td>
<td>Page 56 of 62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These are the pages that have been updated in the posted copy of the IOLC Complete Manual. The pages listed under Document/Section Pages refer to the page number in that section of the document (found at the bottom of each page). For example, in the President’s section, pages 3, 5, 6, and 8 had changes. To print a copy of just these pages, in the PDF, click the Print icon (or on your keyboard Ctrl-P). In the Print Range box, select “Pages” and in text box next to that type “6, 8, 9, 11”. These are the PDF pages corresponding to the updated pages of the President’s section.

If you have a technology question, let us know. Email ahargens@peodsm.org.

Until next time,
Ahn Hargens & TAP (Technology Assistant for P.E.O.). 😊
The P.E.O. Record on Tape/CD
Please contact Anne Vaeth, 11321 Craig, Overland Park, KS 66210, doofmissouri@gmail.com to receive the magazine on tape or CD. This service for our visually impaired sisters is at no cost by Chapter DO, Kansas City, Missouri.

Gift Acknowledgements
Chapter gifts to our projects are acknowledged in this issue of The P.E.O. Record. Projects gifts by individuals are acknowledged by the executive office. Named or designated gifts, as well as large gifts above a certain level as determined by the P.E.O. project or Foundation, are acknowledged by each board of trustees. Gifts to Cottey College by chapters and individuals are acknowledged by the College.

Spring Convention Project Mailing
Every state/provincial/district (s/p/d) president has been sent enough packets of project information cards to distribute one to each chapter at their s/p/d convention. Delegates receiving such packets are to give these project materials to their respective local chapter president immediately following convention.

ELF Is New!
On May 1 the new online ELF Chapter Recommendation Form and Student Application made their debut. With an all-online loan process, students will appreciate timesaving steps in completing an application and uploading transcripts. Please note that the ELF office can no longer accept paper submissions of chapter recommendations or student applications.

ELF has money to lend. To learn how to sponsor a qualified woman for an ELF loan, visit the ELF page of the International website.

The P.E.O. Wish
The P.E.O. Wish is a great way to let your family members and chapter sisters know your wishes regarding your P.E.O. emblem, your preferred version of the P.E.O. Memorial Service and your P.E.O. philanthropic project(s) of choice. Please consider completing this form (available on the website under Local Chapter Forms / President / Special Documents) and giving one copy to your family and one copy to your local chapter president.

The P.E.O. Record
May–June 2014
45
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 (click on address change form)

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)**

Chapter letter(s) ______ State ______ Date address effective ______________

Name ____________________________________________________________

Email address ____________________________________________________

Street or box address ___________________________________________

City __________________________ State/Province/District ________ Zip/Postal code __________

---

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING P.E.O.**

---

**Once again** our local chapters and members have shown dedication, hard work and financial contributions for our projects and recipients. Because of our working together we can say:

Cottey College—Approximately 8,700 women from all 50 states, 4 provinces and from more than 85 countries have graduated since the first class in 1887. The College has been owned and operated by P.E.O. since 1927.

In addition P.E.O. has given more than **$248.5 million** in financial assistance to **93,136** recipients of the ELF, IPS, PCE, PSA and STAR projects.

- P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund loans are more than **$150 million** since 1907.
- P.E.O. International Peace Scholarships are more than **$31 million** since 1949.
- P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education grants are nearly **$45.2 million** since 1973
- P.E.O. Scholar Awards are nearly **$18.8 million** since 1991.
- P.E.O. STAR Scholarships are almost **$3.5 million** since 2009.