P.E.O. Scholar Awards
Supporting Women... Changing the World
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Layout and design of The P.E.O. Record by Allison Vial
In Heart and Spirit... the Soul of P.E.O.

“I look back with profound admiration to you who have followed in our plans...and trust that each succeeding year may find you recording a living monument...”
— SUELA PEARSON PENFIELD, FOUNDER

Convention is a celebration of hearts and minds, dreams fulfilled, treasured memories and rising stars. Witness firsthand the gift of P.E.O. as you hear project recipients speak of the life-altering impact of our Sisterhood. Collective wisdom and kindness will make the demanding work of convention business a labor of love. We will be “recording a living monument” to our Sisterhood as we celebrate our Sesquicentennial Celebration in Des Moines, September 12-14.

To expand our crowd capacity, a grand opportunity was afforded to us as a bold decision was made to move larger events of convention to Wells Fargo arena. Every sister and BIL/spouse who desires to come will be able to join us to enjoy the beautiful city and festivities—we welcome you. For those sisters not able to be there, you will be held closely in our hearts.

Recently, I was honored to participate in our beautiful Ceremony of Initiation for my niece. I urge each of you to reconnect with these expressive words as you ponder their meaning in your own life. The vows we each took and commitment made to our Sisterhood are powerful and, without a doubt, the reason our organization is celebrating 150 glorious years! The words of our ceremony create the heart and spirit of P.E.O.

"Truly there are many great patterns in P.E.O. But the loveliest pattern of all is the Spirit of P.E.O.—that spirit which lends warmth and glow and shine to every phase of P.E.O. One could no more describe it than she could describe silence or catch sunlight in her hands. Yet every P.E.O. knows what it is. Each interprets it in the light of her own personality and capacity. It is present wherever two P.E.O.s meet but, even when alone, a true P.E.O. carries that spirit in her heart.” (from “Out of the Heart”) Please enjoy the beloved writing The Spirit of P.E.O. as a reminder of the essence of our Sisterhood.

I cherish our Sisterhood and am grateful for the opportunity to serve.

Sue Baker, President, International Chapter

The Spirit of P.E.O.

BY ELVA ROBINSON ADAMS, DW, CINCINNATI, OHIO

I am the Spirit of P.E.O. I am an elusive, intangible quality but I am found in the heart of each one of you.

I came into being many years ago when seven young women believed so completely in me that they fashioned a star to wear as an emblem of their devotion to me. I am reborn each time an initiate takes my vows. Thousands of women have dedicated themselves to the task of preserving and developing me so that you and other women might have the privilege of wearing my emblem and repeating my vows.

I am a vital force in the life of each one of you but if I were to ask you what I stand for, I would, I am sure, have many different answers. To some I mean friendships, warm and sincere; to others I am understanding. To one I would mean high ideals and to another, inspiration. To one who has worn my emblem for many years, I am, perhaps, a loving relationship; and to a new member, I might be the sharing of joys and sorrows alike. I am precious to many of you because I demand the best from each one of you. I am high moral principles applied to every-day living. To some I have given confidence, to others ambition; I am a philosophy to be shared and a goal to work toward.

So perhaps I should not say that I am an undefinable quality for each one of you defines me and evaluates me and fashions a niche for me in your heart; and the depth of that niche depends upon the size of your heart. There I shall stay forever and ever. I shall not die; I shall live on and on as long as women like you believe in Faith, Love, Purity, Justice and Truth.

I am the Spirit of P.E.O.

Revised 2009 by George-Ann Adams Lawrence, L, Cincinnati, Ohio
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Connection Discovered in President’s Book

A wonderful surprise occurred recently in Chapter A, Phoenix, Arizona. Ours is the first chapter in Arizona, organized in 1912 by Faith McKee. A few months ago, Chapter A was delighted to initiate Faith McKee’s great-great-granddaughter, Shannon Holt. During the same ceremony, Shannon’s best friend since childhood, Terra Duke, was also initiated. While Shannon’s P.E.O. lineage was clearly documented, Terra had no apparent family connection to P.E.O. During the social time that followed, the two new initiates were shown the president’s book they had each signed earlier. Shannon looked with pride at her great-great-grandmother’s signature on the very first page. Terra’s eyes scanned further down and froze on a name familiar to her. “This name, Lillian Youngker, is the same name as my great-grandmother,” she said. “Could this be her?” Chapter membership records were checked. It was true! Terra’s great-grandmother Lillian was initiated into Chapter A in 1919. This meant Shannon and Terra’s grandmothers were in Chapter A together during its very earliest years. All the more reason to celebrate their granddaughters’ initiation into the same chapter 99 years later!

A closer look at dates revealed why this bit of history was previously unknown to Terra. Her grandmother Lillian entered Chapter Eternal at age 33, just 11 years after her initiation. The good news is Terra now has a newly discovered P.E.O. connection that makes her initiation even more meaningful to her.

Lesson learned: share the signature pages of the president’s book with new members. You never know what you’ll discover!

— Marcia Leggett, A, Phoenix, Arizona

P.E.O. Recognized on PCE Grad Cap

Our P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education recipient, Heidi Walker from Lake City, Florida, graduated in February with a Masters in Educational Leadership from the American College of Education in Indianapolis, Indiana. She was given the opportunity to design her graduation cap and included P.E.O. as part of her artwork. Our chapter found it so charming that we wanted to share it with our sisters in P.E.O. Heidi is in advanced studies for her doctorate and hopes to become a principal of a high school in the near future.

— Carlyn Moyer, DC, Saint Augustine, Florida

PCE Recipient Heidi Walker included daisies and a P.E.O. hashtag on her graduation cap

Seeking the Sister Who Gifted a Pin Holder

In 2013, I was a new P.E.O. and the Educational Loan Fund recipient speaker at International Convention in Dallas, Texas.

During that amazing trip, I met a woman who said she felt she was supposed to give me the unique P.E.O. pin holder that her chapter makes and sells once a year. That memory is etched in my brain and I so love my pin and holder and always think of her. In the whirlwind that was International Convention, I didn’t write down her name or chapter. I was just so overwhelmed by the whole experience. But to this day I think of her and would love to send a proper thank you. The changes in my life from before college, until P.E.O. and now are so stunning. I would love to tell her how moving her gesture was to me.

— Toni Jacobson, BA, Gresham, Oregon

Toni was gifted this pin holder at Convention of International Chapter in 2013. Did you give it to her? Let us know!

Toni Jacobson (right) with Past President of International Chapter Susan Sellers

Toni Jacobson (right) with Past President of International Chapter Susan Sellers

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Toni Jacobson (right) with Past President of International Chapter Susan Sellers
by Andrea C. Wade, Chairman, P.E.O. Scholar Awards Board of Trustees

In the September-October 1990 issue of The P.E.O. Record, International Chapter President Mary Louise Remy enthusiastically announced the introduction of a pilot program of financial support for American and Canadian women “to pursue advanced study and to affirm their excellence in academic achievement.” A special committee was charged with exploring the implementation of a program of awards for women who were either pursuing a graduate degree or engaged in advanced study and research who would make “significant contributions in their varied fields of study.”

The special committee was made up of women with noteworthy professional achievements and a history of strong leadership and support of the Sisterhood, namely Wilma Turner, Ila Lee Ehret, Beverly Rutter, Judy Wilson and Dora Dougherty Strother. After completing their service on the special committee, Ila, Beverly and Judy continued to serve as trustees of the newly-minted project. Wilma Turner served as President of Missouri State Chapter and was serving as Recording Secretary of International Chapter at the time she was liaison to the special committee. Wilma had a distinguished career in teaching and educational leadership, serving on the Board of Directors of the Missouri School Boards Association and as a member of the governor’s education task force. She also served as a lecturer in public speaking and communications as a member of the faculty of the University of Missouri-Rolla.

Ila Lee Ehret was a scholar in her own right, graduating Phi Beta Kappa from Stanford University with a degree in economics. After serving as President of California State Chapter, Ila was the first chairman of the P.E.O. Scholar Awards Board of Trustees. During her term as chairman, Ila wrote in the January-February 1992 P.E.O. Record, “There are untold numbers of truly gifted women with outstanding potential who are deserving of our award.”

Before serving as President of Michigan State Chapter, Judy Wilson also began her professional career in teaching. She thentransitioned to public services, serving in an administrative role in the state Department of Social Services. Her niece, Lynne Wilson (Chapter C, New York, New York), recalls Judy’s pride at being a part of the establishment of this new project and has memories of “boxes and boxes of applications all neatly organized in her apartment.”

Dora Dougherty Strother led an extraordinary life as an aviation pioneer. She learned to fly when she was a student at Cottey College, and she eventually earned a Ph.D. in Aviation Education from NYU. After a distinguished aviation career, where she commanded 23 different aircraft, Dora served on the aviation faculty of the University of Illinois. The Smithsonian Institute featured her photograph and biography as part of a special feature on women pilots.

Beverly Rutter served as President of Arizona State Chapter and then completed service as chairman for the Convention of International Chapter in Phoenix in 1989. She received a call shortly thereafter inviting her to share her strong organizational skills in service of exploring the establishment of this newest project of the Sisterhood.

continued on page 6...
Although the other members of the special committee have entered Chapter Eternal, Beverly Rutter is still very much a vibrant and active P.E.O. leader and fondly remembers the early years of the project. In describing the approach that the special committee took, Beverly observed, “P.E.O. builds on the strength of its past.” She remembers that at that time, P.E.O. had a well-established significant financial award for international women through the International Peace Scholarship (IPS) but offered only relatively smaller P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education grants or Educational Loan Fund loans for U.S. or Canadian women. Mary Louise Remy’s vision of a substantial grant to honor the achievements of U.S. or Canadian women, together with Wilma Turner’s experience as an IPS trustee, shaped the foundational policies and procedures. Although they patterned the P.E.O. Scholar Awards after IPS, Wilma said to the committee, “Don’t get rule-bound; keep it free and open and lovely.”

Once the first call for P.E.O. Scholar Awards nominations went out, Beverly recalls that the committee was surprised at the number of women who applied. According to Beverly, “We kind of misjudged how many women were engaging in graduate study. We had included master’s degree candidates because we were unsure if we would receive enough applications from women studying for doctorates. We now know that there is an almost inexhaustible supply of these women who would benefit from the awards and, in turn, benefit the world.”

The special committee had aspired to create an internationally-recognized premier award for women pursuing graduate-level degrees, something comparable to Fulbright, Rhodes or other prestigious awards. In its first 28 years, with the support of P.E.O. sisters, we have been steadily moving forward and increasing the number, amount and prestige of the award. As the P.E.O. Sisterhood enters its next 150 years, P.E.O. Scholar Awards will continue to serve women displaying exceptional ability and extraordinary promise, thereby “Supporting Women… Changing the World.”

**PSA Statistics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Pilot project established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Project approved; 30 $5,000 awards given</td>
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<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Award amount increased to $8,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Award amount increased to $7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Award amount increased to $10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Non-terminal master’s degree candidates eliminated from eligibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>All master’s degree candidates eliminated from eligibility, award amount increased to $15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Laureate Chapter program established</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Post-doctoral researchers no longer eligible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>25th anniversary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>150 $15,000 awards given in honor of P.E.O. Sesquicentennial</td>
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<td>1991-92</td>
<td>Then</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Nominations</td>
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<td>Number of Completed Applications</td>
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<td>- D.M.A. (Doctor of Musical Arts)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- J.D. (Doctor of Law)</td>
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<td>- D.M.A.\M.B.A. (Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Business Administration)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- M.A.* (Master of Arts)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- M.M.* (Master of Management)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- M.D.\Ph.D. (Doctor of Medicine and Philosophy)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- D.V.M.\Ph.D. (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Philosophy)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- D.P.T. (Doctor of Physical Therapy)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Postdoctoral*</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Please note that students pursuing master’s degrees or postdoctoral study are no longer eligible for a P.E.O. Scholar Award.
The P.E.O. Scholar Award trustees read hundreds of applications each year from true Scholars.

Being accepted into a doctoral-level program is a major accomplishment. However, “pursuing a doctoral-level degree” does not necessarily make her a Scholar—“a distinguished academic.”

It’s not possible to define a Scholar in one or two easy terms. These are the characteristics that make a woman a Scholar:

+ A Scholar exhibits long-range thinking, beyond just practicing her profession, a passion for learning and a personal commitment to action. She demonstrates evidence of intellectual curiosity and a history of going beyond the requirements for her degree. She has a clearly-articulated vision for the future impact of her work.

+ A Scholar exhibits leadership capacity and commitment and evidence of strong mentoring abilities. She is not just a member of organizations but a founder, president or chairman who has influenced other members and affected the direction of the group’s actions or policies. She is also generously available as a mentor to others.

+ A Scholar is repeatedly recognized by others in her profession. She has received awards and is making professional connections with other visionaries in the field—enabling them both to obtain opportunities and experiences. She shows evidence of developing professional connections and skills that will allow her to successfully collaborate as a high-functioning professional. She has received invitations to join with others who are her equals in seriousness and commitment of purpose.

+ A Scholar demonstrates a supported commitment to social justice and sustained evidence of seriousness of purpose. She wants to do what is morally and ethically right, both at home and around the world. A Scholar has affected the communities in which she lives and studies and finds time to volunteer and share her expertise.

+ A Scholar has the potential for strong, enduring impact in the future. She has a vision and is open to new ideas, diverse thinking and continued learning. She is on a trajectory that will support the extension of and multiply the impact of her work. She constantly asks: “What could possibly be?”

Pictured are former and current P.E.O. Scholar Award recipients

by Rebecca Daniel, P.E.O. Scholar Awards Board of Trustees
### PSA Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AWARD Year</th>
<th>NUMBER of Awards</th>
<th>DOLLAR Amount</th>
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<td>2016</td>
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<td>2017</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>2,430</td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$26,750,000</td>
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### PSA Statistics | AT-A-GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Awards</th>
<th>Dollar Amount</th>
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### Percentage of Doctoral Degrees Earned by Women in the U.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage of Doctoral Degrees Earned by Women in the U.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>39.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>52.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Percentage of Doctoral Degrees in Science and Engineering Earned by Women in the U.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage of Doctoral Degrees in Science and Engineering Earned by Women in the U.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>40.7% (2016)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


P.E.O. Scholar Awards are one-time, competitive, merit-based awards for women of the United States and Canada who are pursuing a doctoral-level degree at an accredited college or university. In addition to recognizing and encouraging excellence in higher education, these awards provide partial support for study and research for women who will make significant contributions in their varied fields of endeavor. Priority is given to women who are well established in their programs, study or research.

### Fields of Study of 2019 PSA Scholars

- **Life Sciences**: 15%
- **Social Sciences**: 19%
- **Humanities and the Arts**: 15%
- **Psychology**: 13%
- **Medical/Veterinary/Health**: 12%
- **Education**: 8%
- **Physical Sciences**: 7%
- **Engineering**: 6%
- **Mathematics and Computer Science**: 3%
- **Business, Law and Public Service**: 2%

**Percentage of Doctoral Degrees in Science and Engineering Earned by Women in the U.S.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>40.7% (2016)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
I had two conversations within a week’s time with P.E.O. sisters that made me want to write a piece encouraging sisters to consider being president. One sister I talked with has served as president for six years. I don’t know if they were consecutive years, but she was tired and we talked about how important it is for others to step in. I also talked with a new sister who said she couldn’t imagine serving as president and that she didn’t have that type of personality.

The beauty of P.E.O. is that we all have different gifts and skills. Each sister brings those gifts to her role as president. You don’t have to have a big, dynamic personality to be the president. I’m an accountant and an introvert, but I do have a fierce love for P.E.O. and my sisters. I want to serve and I want to bring people together and I am willing to seek growth in knowledge, to pay attention to details and to show up.

The great thing about P.E.O. is there are almost endless resources available. The tome of the president’s book is both overwhelming and a great source of comfort. It is all there—everything you need to say and do. You don’t have to try to figure it out.

Most of our programs are already set. There are certain things we do at certain times. There is comfort in that. We don’t have to fill the time or try to find a lot of guest speakers.

The P.E.O. website, peointernational.org, is a rich fount of information. If you need a form, an idea, a contact person, you will find it on the website.

Our state officers are another wonderful resource. I attended an ALOT workshop—a workshop for local officer training—and learned so much from the state officers and other sisters who attended.

Last, but certainly not least, our chapter sisters are our best resource. During my first year, I frequently looked to the prior presidents for guidance or confirmation during a meeting. One of our former presidents, Sandy Matule, said to me, “Being the president is the easiest job there is.” I believe she is right, because P.E.O. is filled with amazing women. When we get to lead an incredible group of women who want to change the world, it makes it much easier! I can’t promise you will love being president. You might not, but I hope to encourage you to consider serving in this way and to remember we are in this together and you will have the support and resources needed. I hope you take this leap of faith and say “yes” to being president. May you also be surprised by the joy it brings.★
P.E.O. GRANT HELPED SAM FOLLOW HER DREAMS
by Judy Hogan, A, Phoenix, Arizona

IN 1993, ATTENDEES TO THE CONVENTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA, WERE INSPIRED BY A METAPHorical STORY, TOLD USING AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL), OF A CATERPILLAR THAT ACHIEVED MUCH MORE THAN COULD BE IMAGINED. Sam, who goes by this single-name moniker, was the P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education (PCE) grant recipient speaker that year, and she used her ASL skills to tell that story as part of her own journey. Sam was the single parent of a 14-year-old daughter and a 16-year-old son with multiple brain damage. She was working as a theater arts specialist at a Phoenix, Arizona, school for the deaf. The PCE grant enabled her to fulfill her dream of returning to school at Arizona State University to earn a Master of Fine Arts degree in theater for youth. Now, 26 years later, here is the rest of her story.

Sam used her education, devotion and passion to create the Detour Company Theatre. The inspiration for Detour came in 2000 when Sam was asked by her then 23-year-old developmentally disabled son, “When is it going to be my turn?” He often spent time watching his mother as she led the theater arts program at the school for the deaf and he wanted to perform in the theater as well. Sam searched for an appropriate arts program and finding none, decided it was time to gather her son, his friends and some talented friends of her own and formed a theater group.

Nineteen years later, that group has grown to include 45 actors aged 22 to 56, and a community of volunteers numbering in the hundreds. Their mission statement reads:

“Detour Company Theatre provides theater training and performance experiences for adults with cognitive and physical disabilities, giving them authentic opportunities to develop artistry, demonstrate courage and collaboration, experience joy and participate in the sharing of musical theater with the entire community. These adults may have disabilities including (but not limited to) autism, cognitive and physical challenges, deafness and blindness, which require additional support and adaptive techniques. We work to create rewarding programming that supports existing skills and celebrates the development of new ones. We also serve as a resource to the community—both to support those who want to work in the field of arts and disability, and to those who are eager to celebrate the talent, creativity and artistic potential of all people.”

Detour produces up to three major Broadway productions a year. The 2018 schedule included “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat,” “School of Rock” and “Beauty and the Beast.” This summer they are doing “Mama Mia.” Each production has as many as four performances with an audience of about 300 to 400 people per show. Every actor has a part to play and Detour makes sure that every performance is free to the public and that no actor is turned away for lack of funds.
Sam serves as the company's artistic director. She bridges the gap between the original Broadway script and the adaptations necessary for the Detour cast. She trains the volunteer production coaches to help their actors implement their roles and to navigate the stage safely. Sam states, “We don’t make it about the disability. We find ways to make the story. Maybe that’s what we need to do in life for one another. Instead of focusing on why it’s not working, find a way to make it work. How do we make it fun, successful and real?” As part of making it real, at every show Sam has the audience experience blindness as all the lights are turned off and the music continues. Then the lights come on, the music is stopped and the audience experiences deafness by “seeing” music in sign language.

Sam, along with her 97-year-old mother, is a member of Chapter A, Phoenix, Arizona. Her creativity and unfailing love for the men and women of Detour are an ongoing inspiration to all who know her. In 2018, Sam was the winner in the Individual Category at the 37th Annual Governor’s Arts Awards presented by Arizona Citizens for the Arts in partnership with the Office of the Governor. In her blog remembrances of that event she said,

“IT’S TIME TO OPEN OUR EYES, EARS AND HEARTS TO THE GIFTS WITHIN ALL PEOPLE. I KNOW THE ARTS OFFER SOLUTIONS, MEANINGFUL EXPRESSION AND AWARENESS AND, WITH ALL MY HEART, I WANT TO BE A PART OF INSPIRING, CREATING AND STANDING FOR JUST THAT. I NOW OFFER BACK TO ALL OF YOU—THE HANDBUF OF YOU WHO READ THIS AND THE MANY YOU WILL IN TURN INSPIRE. BE FIERCE AND FABULOUS, MY FRIENDS. BE THE GREATEST FORCE FOR GOOD WE KNOW.”

Sam’s P.E.O. Story
by Becky Frazier, Editor, The P.E.O. Record

Sam’s childhood memories of P.E.O. are of her mother going to P.E.O. lunches, having to vacate when meetings were held at her house and all the P.E.O. kids trying to figure out what the letters meant. Sam’s mother, Sylvia Keith, A, Phoenix, Arizona, became a P.E.O. in 1960. She will turn 98 in July and is still being picked up to go to meetings.

Sam’s journey to becoming a P.E.O. was longer and more circuitous, perhaps, than most second-generation P.E.O.s. As a single parent trying to support her family, Sam was working as a sign language teacher for deafened adults. One of her students was a woman named Chris—a P.E.O. in Chapter V, Phoenix. Sam recalled, “I was trying to go back to grad school. Chris is the one who told me, ‘You know, P.E.O. has all these scholarships for women to earn an education.’ She took care of all the applications for the PCE grant to help me go to grad school, which set the path of my life. Without P.E.O.’s help and without that nudge, I don’t know where I’d be today.”

Sam continued, “I know firsthand what the grants mean. It was amazing! When P.E.O. invited me to Atlanta to speak at International Convention, I got to say ‘thank you.’ At that time, I had just finished grad school and I was thanking them for the grant. Now, I would like to thank them for a lifetime career.

“In 1993, after I finished grad school and the dust settled, I wanted to get back to P.E.O. and it was right for me to join my mom’s chapter. I am a gigantic P.E.O. supporter. I believe that the fellowship of P.E.O. and the mission of P.E.O. does tremendous things to support women. They believed in me and they believed in my dream. I will always support P.E.O. The mission of P.E.O. and what P.E.O. stands for is so important for women to know.”

Pictures are from various productions put on by Detour Company. Photos © Christine Keith/Detour Company Theatre
1  GETTING AROUND DES MOINES
From flying into Des Moines to maneuvering while you’re here, convention transportation for Des Moines looks a little different than past conventions. Not all hotels are on the complimentary shuttle route so you’ll want to make sure you know your specific transportation plan. Please make sure to visit the Transportation tab on the convention website, convention.peointernational.org, for the most up-to-date transportation information.

If you need a scooter or wheelchair while at convention, please contact Home Town Mobility at 877-928-5388.

2  FIELDS OF OPPORTUNITIES
Discover why Des Moines was named “1 of 15 Under-the-Radar Cities You need to Visit” by Expedia in 2017. Book your tours today and experience a little bit of Iowa on our specially-curated tours. Don’t miss an exclusive day trip to Mount Pleasant where you will walk in the footsteps of P.E.O.’s Founders and see carefully-preserved artifacts where it all started 150 years ago. All tour offerings can be found on www.peo2019tours.com. Book early to reserve your spot. Tours are managed by E&B Management. 515-412-4836 or peo2019tours@gmail.com.

3  PLAN YOUR PERFECT DAY
We heard you! In a post-convention survey from 2017, attendees said they wanted more free time to see and enjoy the host city. This year, you’ll find the opportunity to do just that on Thursday afternoon and Friday evening. Whether you are attending a workshop, the Descendants Tea, taking the self-guided Art Route tour or hopping on the D-Line to shop in the East Village, there are plenty of things to do! Visit the convention website for more details on planning your perfect day!

4  FARM TO YOUR TABLE
You won’t go hungry in the Hawkeye state. Taste why local chefs build dishes with Iowa-raised beef, eggs and produce and how they put the farm in farm-to-table. For those that have registered accordingly, breakfasts will be at your hotels. Lunches, as well as the Thursday and Saturday dinners, will be held in Hy-Vee Hall. We’ll offer a food court during registration on Wednesday at the Convention Center. Since we know the meals in Hy-Vee Hall will eventually reach capacity, we are also offering access to concession stands at Wells Fargo Arena.

5  REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION LETTERS
Don’t leave home without it! Your final confirmation letter will be sent electronically to you by September 5. Be sure to read the letter in detail as final hotel and event assignments are not confirmed until this letter. P.E.O. reserves the right to alter your preferred choices in order to best accommodate the group. The letter will also contain helpful information about transportation and what to expect financially at your hotel.
GET THE P.E.O. CONVENTION APP!

How Can the P.E.O. Convention App Help You?
At this year’s Convention of International Chapter, there will be a special P.E.O. app to help you stay organized throughout the event! This app was available for the first time at the 2017 CIC in Charlotte. Here are a few things you’ll be able to do with the app:
- Access schedules and maps
- Get notifications about important announcements
- Upload your photos so they can be shared with your sisters

How Do You Get It?
This year’s app will be available to download in early September. Make sure you follow P.E.O. International on social media so you’ll be notified as soon as it’s available! Then, just follow these instructions to download it.
- On an Apple device, open the App Store. For an Android, you’ll use Google Play.
- Search for P.E.O. International Events.
- Download the app and the icon will appear on your phone’s home screen. You’ll just need to tap on it anytime you want to use it.

If you need any help, there will be an App Assistance Desk at the convention!

GIVING BACK IN GREATER DES MOINES

In 2017, an estimated one in eight Americans were food insecure, equating to 40 million Americans and including more than 12 million children. In Iowa, 341,890 people are struggling with hunger. The Iowa Events Center, where convention takes place, partners with local charities to donate convention leftovers to Des Moines residents that are food insecure. In addition, they work with local farmers to compost the items that cannot be donated. The planning committee has carefully developed the meals for Convention of International Chapter in order to best maximize these efforts and give back to our home state! We know you’ll eat well while you’re with us...and because of this, so will many others!

CONVENTION LIVESTREAMING

Can’t make it to Des Moines to celebrate? Watch the livestream of Projects Night from Des Moines on Thursday, September 12, 2019. Visit the convention website, convention.peointernational.org for more details on how to tune in and plan your watch party!
Anne Freyer, DD, Sun Lakes, Arizona, was a senior in high school when President John F. Kennedy gave his inaugural speech urging American citizens to participate in public service. His words, “ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country” resonated with her immediately and throughout the rest of her life.

Anne recalls being swept up in the excitement around doing something good for her country and was tempted to volunteer for the Peace Corps but, as she says, “life happened.” Anne, who grew up in Wheaton, Illinois, attended pharmacy school at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, then graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She started practicing pharmacy and moved to Arizona, where she earned her master’s degree. Anne married, had three children and continued working in the pharmaceutical field for decades.

After her retirement, Anne still felt the pull to make a larger contribution to society. She considered the Peace Corps again but, with her pharmacy background, was interested in doing something more specifically in the medical field. As she researched various volunteer opportunities, she learned about Mercy Ships and the vision of their mission, to provide healthcare relief to the underserved in the world, suited what she was looking for to a T.

Anne volunteered with Mercy Ships for more than three months. She was on the world’s largest private hospital ship, the Africa Mercy, docked in Guinea, Africa, where she dispensed pharmaceuticals for patients receiving free surgeries on the ship. Anne’s work helped patients who faced extraordinary and dire health conditions due to a lack of access to safe and timely surgery.

Anne explained, “The reason I really felt strongly about this kind of healthcare mission is that it’s surgery-oriented. With surgery, you can intervene in someone’s life and make a permanent change for the better.”

Surgeries are performed to correct a variety of conditions such as cleft palates, cleft lips, bowed legs, tumors, lymphomas, hernias, burns and cataracts. Patients of all ages—from infants to the elderly—are treated. An extensive screening process takes place before the ship is docked to find people who can benefit from the services. For terminal conditions, palliative care is provided.

Anne was one of 400 volunteers from 40 nations on the Africa Mercy. In addition to doctors, nurses, medical technicians, physical therapists and pharmacists, the ship depends on volunteers from a multitude of other fields—teachers, clerks, bio-medical technicians, receptionists, housekeepers and maritime professionals—as well.

During her time on the ship, Anne lived in a six-person cabin. Not since college did she have to live in that kind of communal-living situation. It required some sacrifices and adjustments, but Anne was able to keep her altruistic motives front-of-mind. She said,
“I was not doing it for myself, for my benefit, I was there to support the ship and the surgeries.”

In the end, Anne felt she got more out of the experience than she ever could have imagined. A few cases especially stuck out to her. Anne recalls one man who walked for a day and a half to get to the ship to have a facial deformity corrected. While it wasn’t life-threatening, it kept him from being accepted in his village and prevented him from earning a living for his family. The surgery literally changed his life.

Anne saw many children, who, due to poor nutrition, had leg deformities which kept them from running and playing. She said, “It was really great to watch kids go through surgery and learn to walk again on straight legs and look forward to going home and being able to play. You knew you’d given them, at a young age, something to look forward to in life and not be put to the side.”

Anne was present when a 24-year-old-mother had her bandages from cataract surgery removed and was able to see her baby for the first time. “Moments like that made it all worthwhile,” Anne said. “By end of my field service, I came away with so much more than I thought I would.”

ANNE’S PASSION FOR P.E.O.

Anne’s mother, Alene Freyer, was a charter member of Chapter DD, Sun Lakes, Arizona. Anne was initiated into the chapter in 2003. Anne’s daughter, Amy Strunk, went to Cottey College and is now vice president of Chapter AY, Phoenix, Arizona. When she first became a member, Anne was still working and wasn’t able to be as involved in P.E.O. She recalls, “They were very tolerant of me working and who I was. When I was working, I attended when I could and was peripherally involved.” Now that she’s retired, and has returned from Africa, Anne is dedicated to making P.E.O. more of a priority. She said, “I’m going to commit more time, effort and thought to P.E.O. now that I’m back.”

Anne is passionate about P.E.O. and approaches potential applicants with the zeal of a salesperson. She is currently chairing the Educational Loan Fund (ELF) committee in her chapter and is always on the lookout for women who could benefit from the project. “I really feel like women who can benefit from ELF loans are in our own backyards,” said Anne. “These are the women you’re going to run into while you’re out in your community.

Most women will need loans for school anyway. ELF provides wonderful opportunities for low-interest loans.”

On the Africa Mercy, Anne met a woman who was considering returning to college to pursue a new career path. Anne told her all about P.E.O., gave her a P.E.O. business card and encouraged her to visit the P.E.O. website. Anne followed up later with an email with ELF’s at-a-glance facts along with a brief overview of how the application process works. Anne plans to keep in touch with the woman, with the hope that Chapter DD can sponsor her for a loan in the future.

Recently at her doctor’s office, Anne was visiting with a medical assistant who mentioned wanting to go back to school to become a registered nurse. Anne was right there with a P.E.O. business card saying, “Here’s my card, here’s the P.E.O. website. Look up the projects. Here’s my phone number. Call me when you’re ready to go back to school.”

Anne’s next mission is to share with members of her chapter how to unabashedly approach women who may benefit from the assistance of any of P.E.O.’s projects for grants, scholarships or loans. She said, “I’m going to start showing my sisters how to overcome obstacles in approaching people and how to effectively use the business cards. There is always something P.E.O. can offer to a woman!”

Photos courtesy of Mercy Ships
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

AVOIDING DISTRACTIONS TO MAXIMIZE YOUR

“I worked on _____ all day, and I’m still not done!”

Fill in the blank—it could be P.E.O., a work project or a school fundraising event. Yet it’s probably not true.

Envision this. You sit down at your desk at 8:00 a.m. to write a newsletter. You start, and then an email alert pops up. You check to make sure you’re not missing something, and return to the newsletter for 20 minutes. You throw in a load of wash and then get back to your desk. After 15 minutes you get up to make a cup of coffee and clean the breakfast dishes you realize are still in the sink. Back to the newsletter, until your mom texts and you decide it’s a good time to visit. You then return to your project, regroup...and the washing machine cycle ends.

You get the idea. You may think you are spending three hours working on your newsletter, but the amount of time actually spent on it is FAR less. According to Gloria Mark, University of California, Irvine, it takes an average of 23 minutes and 15 seconds to return to a task once you’ve been distracted. Multi-tasking, not to be confused with sensible scheduling, causes you to be less efficient and less effective.

In a podcast interview with Ezra Klein, Cal Newport, author of “Deep Work: Rules for Focused Success in a Distracted World,” says that we are training our brains for a high level of distraction, which hurts our ability to focus for a long period of time on a cognitive project. We have all experienced the curse of digital distraction from emails, texts and social media, but changing behavior is really hard. The cartoon below says it all!

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

I AM HERE TO WORK ON MY RESUME. I WILL FINISH MY RESUME.

PING!

OHH! AN EMAIL COULD BE IMPORTANT.

WAIT, THAT’S NOT THE RIGHT SHOW, BUT WHO’S THAT GIRL? SHE’S HOT.

I’LL GOOGLE IMAGE HER.

WHOA, HE’S A FREAK.

I’LL WRITE ABOUT HIM ON MY BLOG.

WONDER WHO’S TALKING ABOUT MY BLOG. I SHOULD GOOGLE MYSELF.

NO, NO, NO... IT’S RESUME TIME... DO THE RESUME.

PING!

OHH! AN EMAIL.

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE © Stephan Pastis. Reprinted by permission of ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION. All rights reserved.

BY STEPHAN PASTIS

Hey, it’s got a YouTube link. Gotta watch it.

Hey, I got a friend request.

I should google him.

HaHa, that’s great. Hey, they’ve got more like that.

I’ve never even heard of this show. I’ll Wikipedia it.

Haha, that’s great. Hey, they’ve got more like that.

I’ve never even heard of this show. I’ll Wikipedia it.

Hey, I got a friend request.

Wait, I don’t even know this guy.

I should google him.

HaHa, that’s great. Hey, they’ve got more like that.

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LEADERSHIP TIP

Go to www.peoleadership.org > Productivity for a printable version of these tips.
Here are simple strategies you can implement to improve productivity and your sense of accomplishment:

- **Schedule blocks of time** to do “deep work” and do it, just as you would any scheduled appointment. Understand the difference between work that requires concentration and creativity versus tasks. Use activities like phone calls, filing and processing emails as “filler” when you don’t have much time.

- **Know when you are at your best**, and do the important work at that time. If you are a morning person, don’t start with emails! They will always be there, so don’t waste your most productive, high-energy time on tasks that don’t require your full concentration.

- **Set a timer.** When you sit down to work, set your timer for 45 minutes, and don’t do ANYTHING else in that time. When the alarm goes off, get up from the desk and take a break. When you return to your work, set the timer again. You may struggle to stay focused, but the more you do it the easier it becomes to “get in the zone” and stay there.

- **Eliminate** email alerts, pop-ups on the computer and noises or flashing lights from your phone while you work. Every break in concentration interrupts your train of thought and slows your progress. You might even forget a really good idea that was forming. Cal Newport says that it takes more than 20 minutes to re-focus after a distraction, because your brain keeps processing the distraction even when you think you’ve moved on; we’re not wired to actively think on multiple topics at once.

- **Schedule your distractions (aka breaks).** These will refresh your brain and body alike, and scheduling time for a good break frees you from the self-imposed guilt of stepping away from your project.

- **Declutter your mind** by making lists so those thoughts don’t continue to swirl in your brain. You might have multiple lists, like to-do’s, projects and ideas to explore.

- **Process emails, rather than “checking” them.** How many times have you opened the same email, because you don’t remember the content? Your inbox is not a storage box. When processing an email, you figure out the action—determine it’s unimportant, delegate, add to your to-do list or schedule time to delve in and resolve. Then delete or file it.

Finally, here’s the suggestion that has been most effective for me:

- **Every day, identify three items** (perhaps two work items and one personal activity like exercise) that, if completed, will make the day **successful**! This forces you to prioritize, keeps you focused on the **right** work and lessens the feeling of stress from having a long to-do list remaining. It’s okay, because today those items weren’t as important as the things you accomplished.

By scheduling blocks of time to work and staying focused, you will be more productive in a shorter time with less stress because you are controlling the process. Improved efficiency and active prioritization frees you mentally and emotionally from the “I’m working on ______ ALL THE TIME” syndrome. You have a greater understanding of when you are working and when you aren’t, which makes the commitment feel more manageable. Eliminate the “pings” in your life, discover new levels of productivity and enjoy the experience of time well spent! ★
$150 in honor of 150 years!

With a goal of 100 percent local chapter participation, each chapter is encouraged to donate $150 to P.E.O.’s 150th Anniversary Fund. If necessary, chapters may accumulate amounts during the collection period in order to meet the suggested $150 donation to be submitted in one check. 150 Fund donations from an individual or chapter must be received by Executive Office by August 1, 2019 to receive recognition at 2019 Convention of International Chapter. Collection of funds will continue until January 21, 2020. More information, including how to donate, is available at www.peo150.org. Reminder: Local chapter gifts should be forwarded to the s/p/d treasurer or paid assistant.

150 FUND UPDATE!

Has your chapter made its contribution to help us reach our goal of 100% participation?

Commemorative P.E.O. Anniversary Jewelry

The Tradition Continues

During P.E.O.’s 100th anniversary in 1969, a charm was created to commemorate the milestone. The Sisterhood is pleased to continue this tradition with the new sesquicentennial celebration jewelry. This limited-edition jewelry is available exclusively from Herff Jones. Visit www.peo150.org for more details, including how to order.

Order “We Who Are Sisters”

The new P.E.O. pictorial history book is still available. Books are $40 plus tax and shipping. Copies are limited and selling quickly, so make sure you don’t miss out! Visit www.peointernational.org/150 or www.peo150.org and click through to purchase the book from the printer.
LIKE MOST STUDENTS, P.E.O. Liz Stevens, CC, Absarokee, Montana, depended on government student loans to attend college to earn her bachelor’s degree. A year later, when she decided to pursue her master’s degree, she was concerned about incurring any more debt of that nature so was thrilled to receive assistance from the P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund (ELF).

“The ELF loan was heaven sent,” said Liz. With assistance from the ELF loan she received in 2010, Liz was able to complete her master’s degree in forensic anthropology in 2013.

After finishing her master’s, Liz took a year off to think about her next steps and to be sure that she wanted to pursue trauma analysis as her area of specialization. During that time, she worked on her professional development and extra coursework, which cemented her desire to pursue both field and lab work in trauma skeletal analysis.

Liz is currently completing her Ph.D. in biological anthropology and bioarcheology. As part of her Ph.D. program, Liz will spend the next four years conducting laboratory skeletal analysis in Hawaii, where she is assisting with the K208 project.

The K208 project, named for the first set of 208 coffin-sized boxes of human remains returned to the United States from North Korea in the 1990s, aims to confirm the identities of those Americans who died during the Korean War. Thanks to advances in forensic technology, it is now possible to identify those whose remains are in the boxes. In addition to skeletal analysis, identifying the remains also requires research into military historical records. Any identification must rely both on DNA testing as well as history for a possible match. This process ensures the most accurate identification so families can claim their soldiers and honor them with appropriate burial services.

The work Liz has done with the K208 project has further reinforced her desire to work in excavation as well as trauma analysis. Liz will finish her doctorate this summer and describes her dream job as working for the Montana State Historical Society, Antiquities Division and/or working on cases with law enforcement to excavate and identify skeletal remains. Of particular interest to Liz are Native Americans and how ancient people moved to populate the Earth, particularly in the Americas.
COMMENCEMENT SEASON 2019 HAS COME AND GONE AT COTTEY COLLEGE. This year witnessed the largest baccalaureate graduation class in school history; 55 students completed either a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree, while 42 completed an associate degree, almost three quarters (72 percent) of whom will return to Cottey in the fall to complete their four-year degrees.

Graduation is a time of celebration, a time to celebrate our amazing students and to look forward with them to the next steps in their life journeys. Below is just a sampling of those amazing next steps:

Susana Irigoyen, Holtville, California, earned her B.A. in business administration-management and an A.F.A. in dance. She is a second generation P.E.O., Chapter AV, El Centro, California, and plans to assume ownership of a dance studio located in El Centro. Susana is excited to share her love of dance with others for many years to come.

Tenzin Ingsel (India) earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. While at Cottey, she interned with 3M for a year. As part of a class field trip with her analytical chemistry class, Tenzin visited the Kansas Polymer Research Institute at Pittsburg State University. During the visit, Tenzin became interested in the research facilities and spoke with several graduate students and researchers. She then applied to the graduate program in materials science at Pitt State and was accepted. According to her advisor, Dr. Ganga Fernando, Tenzin "is the only Cottey international student who has entered into a STEM grad school with a fully-funded graduate assistantship right after graduation."

Kundai Matara (Zimbabwe) graduated with a B.A. in business administration-management. She served as the commencement student speaker and was thrilled that her mother was able to travel from Africa to hear her speak. Kundai has three job offers in Florida and her goal is to become a corporate lawyer, specifically working with foreign companies investing in Africa. She also desires to own a non-governmental organization to help women entrepreneurs in Zimbabwe.

Morgan Brown, Hernando, Florida, is a fifth generation P.E.O. (Chapter BQ, Winter Park, Florida), a third generation Cottey student and a P.E.O. STAR Scholarship recipient. Morgan earned a B.A., double majoring in organizational leadership and women, gender, sexuality studies. Next year she will begin work toward a Master of Science in organizational change management at The New School in NYC. Additionally, Morgan and classmate Cate Nolan (Vonore, Tennessee) are starting a consulting business, Luminary Leadership Consulting, scheduled to launch early this summer.

New: Music Education
Cottey recently signed an agreement with Central Methodist University (CMU), located in Fayette, Missouri, that will allow students to stay at Cottey for four years and complete a Bachelor of Music Education B.M.E.) degree from CMU. Students will enroll at Cottey, complete an associate degree, and then go on to earn credits toward their B.M.E. while remaining at Cottey for two more years, continuing in Cottey ensembles, and utilizing P.E.O. Cottey scholarships.

Cottey music educator, Dr. Jackie Lordo, states, “Students in this program will be able to focus on their development as musicians while participating in the many opportunities that Cottey provides. CMU has a reputation for producing outstanding music educators, and we look forward to this relationship.”

Do you know a high school woman who would like to teach music? Tell her about Cottey! ★
CHUNG SUL YOUN KIM from South Korea was one of the first P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship (IPS) recipients. Born in 1932, her first words, translated from Korean were, “I can do.” These words became her motto and driving force. After excelling through school, Chung Sul took the entrance exams to Seoul National University. Her chances for admission as a woman were referred to as harder than “catching stars of the sky.” Undaunted, Chung Sul was admitted to the Department of Chemistry in 1949 at age 16.

On June 25, 1950, North Korea invaded South Korea. Chung Sul’s father sent the family of six to separate hiding places, moving them secretly several times. After many near-death experiences, they miraculously survived though all their possessions were stolen. The university was in shambles as were Chung Sul’s dreams of studying chemistry; thankfully, her father decided she should continue her education in America. After a very difficult application process, she was accepted to Denison University in Granville, Ohio. Leaving her family in 1951 was frightening for Chung Sul, but soon she was enjoying speaking to community organizations about her life including South Korea’s rich history realizing that Americans were influenced by the media coverage of the Korean War depicting streams of refugees bearing meager belongings on their backs through a desolate land which no longer reflected the beauty of her country. Chung Sul worked multiple jobs to pay her tuition until her roommate, Mary Taylor, introduced her to P.E.O. member Mrs. Cline, who told her about a P.E.O. scholarship for international students. With the IPS scholarship she had more time to concentrate on her studies.

After one year at Denison, Chung Sul was accepted to the University of Illinois hoping for admission to the chemical engineering program. With Mrs. Cline’s help, she received a second P.E.O. IPS scholarship. Women were not normally admitted to this program, so Chung Sul struck a bargain with the chairman of the department that if she achieved at least a 3.0 GPA in her first semester, she would be admitted. She maintained a 4.75 GPA throughout, gaining respect of all and graduating at the top of her class in 1955.

She was honored at graduation as the first Korean and second woman to receive a B.S. in chemical engineering from the university and received a gift from the First Lady of South Korea, hand-delivered by the dean of the department.

Chung Sul became an inspiration to Korean women and was honored in the Seoul newspaper as the first woman in Korean history to earn a Ph.D. in science. She went on to do ground-breaking chemical research advancing military, industrial and environmental science, ultimately becoming an award-winning professor, all while raising a family. Her son loved telling his friends that his mother was a rocket scientist! Chung Sul triumphed in a male-dominated field and is an example to all women to reach for their highest aspirations. She helped foster peace through education and is grateful to P.E.O. for financial assistance. Her biography entitled “Can Do!” by David J. Valley was published in 2016. Chung Sul is 87 years old and currently lives in California.
Truc Thanh Nguyen follows her passion thanks to P.E.O. Continuing Education Grant

by Betsy Dietz, P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education Board of Trustees

Truc Thanh Nguyen was a medical student in Vietnam. Becoming a doctor was her parents’ dream for her until they could no longer afford her schooling. Her family had been patiently waiting for 14 years to come to the United States. Finally, two years ago, Truc and her family immigrated to the U.S. as legal permanent residents. “Just get a job!” she was told by discouraging (albeit well-intended) advisors, but Truc did not listen to them. She saw the family’s move as a wonderful opportunity to follow her true passion for math and physics. She applied for scholarships and found encouragers like Chapter FY, Wichita, Kansas, who sponsored Truc for a P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education (PCE) grant. They helped her build her confidence along the way. She is now enrolled at Wichita State University (WSU) expecting to earn a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering with an emphasis in aeronautics in December 2020.

Based on her excellent academic performance, Truc was selected for the applied learning program Go-Baby-Go, a cooperative program between physical therapy and engineering students. The interprofessional team combined the designing skills of engineering with the knowledge of physical therapists to modify a battery-powered car for a child with physical disabilities. Truc particularly enjoyed using her technical expertise to benefit her community and described with delight meeting the child’s family and watching the child, shy at first, learn to drive his new car. Imagine the joy and other benefits of mobility this precious child with Down syndrome will experience.

Truc also works as a teaching assistant at the National Institute of Aviation Research, a nationally known research center at WSU. This experience will enhance her qualifications for a number of positions in the field of aeronautics. She loves the excitement of tackling complex problems and takes satisfaction in solving difficult challenges. Truc shared, “Being a woman in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) field not only fulfills my desire of making a difference in other people’s lives but empowers and inspires other women to go down a better path in their lives.” Truc will be the first member of her family to graduate from college. Now she encourages other young women to build their own self-confidence, “You can do it. Be optimistic in any situation!”

Kathy Strattman, a member of Chapter FY’s PCE committee, says, “Meeting Truc and helping her realize her own dream has generated enthusiasm among our chapter members. Our experience is fostering a deeper understanding of how the PCE grant is making a difference in this young woman’s life. We plan to treat Truc to lunch and take her out for coffee regularly to stay in touch.” Kathy and her committee will keep their sisters informed through their newsletter and share their success at a workshop at state convention.

Truc’s eyes light up when she says, “I will try my best to give my highest priority to studying because I believe that getting a degree will open up so many opportunities and a better life for me and my family.” ✨
Working Effectively with STAR Applicants

CREATING WIN-WIN SITUATIONS FOR EVERYONE

by Patricia Franzen, P.E.O. STAR Scholarship Board of Trustees

YES! IT’S TRUE! While every young woman who is recommended for a P.E.O. STAR Scholarship is not awarded, every applicant is a winner. This is especially true when a chapter works effectively with their STAR nominee. The P.E.O. STAR Scholarship has the potential to be so much more than $2,500 toward a college education. This award holds the promise of a WIN–WIN for all involved.

Support comes in many forms beyond financial. Chapters that offer encouragement to young women instill confidence and promote achievement.

Trust developed by truly getting to know the applicant and allowing her to get to know your chapter promotes closer communication during and after the application process. As the years go by, she will remember how you made her feel.

Action in the form of active involvement in the application process pays dividends—both for the applicant and the chapter.

Relationships of friendship and caring formed as a chapter works with its applicant to form a bond that will remain far into the future.

Sheila Meador belongs to Chapter EA, Wichita Falls, Texas. Her chapter has recommended seven STAR candidates; five have been successful. Sheila writes, “When we find a candidate, she is rare and to be celebrated. Win or lose, we have already deemed her worthy. She is given a copy of The P.E.O. Record, as well as the web address so she may see for herself who we are... We invite her to a meeting as a program, allow her to introduce herself and let her demonstrate to the chapter why she is our candidate. We encourage her and others who know her well to relay things to us that will assist in our submission.”

Sheila adds, “I believe what and how we do it pays dividends in the end. It brings us closer to our candidate and her family. It lifts her up and propels her forward in believing in herself. Most importantly it feeds the soul of our chapter and allows us to experience firsthand the impact of our projects.” Sheila says that candidates are positively moved by the gesture of nomination and calls it a WIN–WIN.

It is OK to assist your candidate as she completes her application. Offer to proofread her essay; run interference if she has a problem or needs advice; be there for her—win or not. There are no losers with STAR. As you work with your applicant, you are poised to build her confidence—a powerful gift.

P.E.O. is a remarkable sisterhood on so many levels, but perhaps among its finest qualities is the loving concern we express for one another and for those around us, including our project applicants. Sue Baker, President of International Chapter, emphasizes this attitude of loving concern and showcases grace to exemplify who we are in P.E.O. She reminds us that grace is defined as “the disposition to benefit and serve others.” In Sue’s words, “There is a certain loveliness and beauty in P.E.O.—Grace. That word brings calm and makes us take pause about what is really important. Adjusting priorities daily as we look around to determine what we can do to positively affect another life—making it easier in that moment.”

Your chapter honors an accomplished young woman with your recommendation. In so doing, you are making a positive difference in her life. She may be awarded a P.E.O. STAR Scholarship; she may not. She is still worthy of your loving concern—and grace. The true honor came when you chose her as your chapter’s STAR. These are the young women we want in P.E.O. Continue to boost and promote her with notes, follow her on social media, share her achievements, celebrate her! And when your nominee one day becomes a sister... that’s a WIN–WIN! ★
PARTICIPATE IN THE “Each One Bring One” CHALLENGE
Help Maintain the Sustainability of the Sisterhood

by Jacqueline Dawson, International Chapter Membership Committee

In her acceptance remarks, President of International Chapter Sue Baker, stated, “We are often challenged by the opinion that there is too much emphasis on membership numbers. It may seem that way; however, our encouragement to grow is not based on numbers, but the SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR SISTERHOOD. It is really about how much we can accomplish with more members, how many more lives can be positively impacted by our philanthropic efforts, how many more leaders we can send into this world...what if EVERY single member took it upon herself to make one thing happen—share the gift of P.E.O.—not a philosophical obligation for someone else, but a joyful choice by each member.”

What if every member took this to heart and shared the gift of P.E.O.? What would our Sisterhood look like? While we may set local chapter goals to have an annual membership increase, what if each of us takes Sue's challenge to give the gift of P.E.O. If we were to EACH ONE BRING ONE, then we would truly do something amazing. If each of us talks about P.E.O., introduces P.E.O to a friend, relative, neighbor, project applicant, work associate (and the list goes on) then our Sisterhood would be powerfully and dynamically changed. Think of how many more lives would be changed forever...through sisterhood, through our projects!

There is no secret formula to membership growth. Membership growth takes a little effort, determination, and of course, enthusiasm. The concept is simple; when sisters talk about P.E.O. and share what P.E.O. does and is, our Sisterhood will grow.

Consider this:

• **Five potential new members** result when one member of your chapter practices “EACH ONE BRING ONE” over **five years**.

• And think if **everyone in your chapter** practices “EACH ONE BRING ONE.” What would we look like in one year? What would we look like in five years?

150 years ago, our Founders had that determination and enthusiasm and made the effort to share P.E.O. by finding others. “Out of the Heart,” which provides the historical view of our Sisterhood’s growth, shared that while they started with seven, by year-end Original Chapter A had initiated another 16 sisters. The chapter was growing and the new sisters were excited to be a part of the Sisterhood and give the gift of P.E.O.

There are many resources regarding finding prospective members located in the Local Chapter Membership Toolbox on the P.E.O. International website, www.peointernational.org. Look under the “New Member” section and then “Identifying Prospective Members.” Has your chapter done a membership program using “Franc’s List”? This resource, named after our Founder Franc Roads Elliott, helps each sister identify potential members such as:

- **Friends**, **Relatives**, **Acquaintances**, **Neighbors** and **Children’s friends**. Have fun with it and make secondary categories such as Cottey alumnae or colleagues and project applicants and their mothers, daughters and/or sisters.

Once you have identified potential sisters, take action! Invite the women who are local to social events and small group get-togethers, introducing them to other sisters. Those women who are not local may be introduced using the electronic Introduction of a WomanWho Is Not a P.E.O. form, located conveniently in the top bar at www.peointernational.org. With this being so easy to fill out electronically, in a few minutes you will be sharing a potential sister’s information with the president(s) of local chapter(s) within a 30-mile radius of the woman’s physical address as well as the state, provincial or district (s/p/d) organizer. They should then call these recommended women as soon as possible—and you in turn should be calling any women that you get from this recommendation form.

We shouldn’t just stop there. Have you touched base with your chapter’s inactive sisters regularly? Perhaps you have a great connection to one or more of these sisters. Talk to them about P.E.O. We don’t want to assume that they are not interested in becoming active again. The timing might be just right for them to reinstate their membership.

And what about our unaffiliate sisters? Have you taken a good look at your s/p/d’s list of sisters that live there but are currently too far from their home chapters to regularly attend? Might you live near one of these sisters and ask her to attend your next meeting? If you do not have the list, ask for it from your reciprocity representative, an s/p/d unaffiliate chairman or organizer.

We can increase the sustainability of our Sisterhood by strengthening friendships among our chapter sisters, by helping unaffiliate sisters find new P.E.O. homes and by intentionally introducing the women we know to our P.E.O. sisters. Remember, chapter membership is the responsibility of each sister, and if each of us commits to bringing one... wow, think what we will be able to achieve as a whole!★
1. Cindy Clinch (left) had recently transferred to BL, Scottsdale, Arizona, through the unaffiliate process. She, in turn, sent an electronic Introduction of a Woman Who is Not a P.E.O. form introducing her biological sister, Dawn Carlson (right) to chapters in Georgia. Dawn is now a member of Chapter AQ, Marietta, Georgia!

2. Phyllis Neal, EX, Medina, Ohio, (left) sent an electronic Introduction of a Woman Who is Not a P.E.O. form introducing potential sister Amanda Shah (center). Kristen Gebhardt, EE, Warren, Ohio, membership chairman (right), followed up on the form and now Amanda is a sister!

3. Shelby Weitz, Hawaii’s first four-year Cottey graduate, was initiated last year. Chapter J, Hilo, Hawaii, currently has three members who are Cottey alumnae. Mahalo for keeping connected, sisters!

4. Chapter BL, Scottsdale, Arizona, initiated two project recipients as well as their mothers this year. Welcome to the Sisterhood (from the left) Blaise and Hailey Wingert and Nicole and Linda Fornabaio.
Meet Your State, Provincial & District Presidents

New Presidents of State, Provincial and District (S/P/D) Chapters were installed at S/P/D conventions this spring. These leaders will help shape the future of our Sisterhood and have already dedicated years of service to P.E.O. In the next few issues of The Record we will meet the committed women who will serve as your S/P/D Chapter Presidents for the next year.

*Presidents from the blue highlighted areas are featured in this issue.
**Jocelyn Churchill**  
Alberta–Saskatchewan  
*The Power of Now: Take a Closer Look*

Jocelyn Churchill was initiated into Chapter N, Calgary, Alberta, in 2003 and proudly follows her mother, Inez Wood, and sister, Marion Wood, (both in Chapter Eternal), who were presidents of Alberta Provincial Chapter. Born and raised in Edmonton, Jocelyn graduated as a registered nurse from the University of Alberta Hospital (1973), the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (1976) and earned a Master of Nursing from the University of Calgary (1995). Jocelyn taught nursing in Red Deer and Calgary and became a Lamaze-certified childbirth educator. In 2015, she retired as the care manager of community prenatal programs for the Calgary Zone of Alberta Health Services. Jocelyn’s hobbies now include painting and teaching prenatal classes.

Jocelyn and Dave Churchill married in 1975. They have lived in Edmonton, Red Deer and Calgary. They have one son, Tony (with wife Laura and children Jonathan and Annette); daughter Laura (and children Alexis and Kyla) and daughter Hilary (with her husband Jon and daughter Stella Mae).

Jocelyn happily spreads the word about P.E.O. philanthropies with friends, co-workers and family. Exposure to women in the diverse cultures with whom she has been in contact has definitely confirmed for her one of the basic tenets of the P.E.O. Sisterhood: education empowers women.

**Shannon Gatewood-Smith**  
Arizona  
*The Spirit of Many Hands*

As they say, P.E.O. starts in Iowa. Shannon Gatewood-Smith’s second-generation P.E.O. mother was from Iowa. She found her future husband, a full-blooded Navajo Indian, while attending Arizona Teacher’s College in Flagstaff, Arizona. After they received their master’s degrees in teaching, they moved to the Navajo Reservation where Shannon was born and attended school until she was 13.

After graduating from dental hygiene school in 1977, Shannon did research work studying periodontal disease in diabetic people. For the last 34 years, she has worked full time in a private dental practice—seeing patients as well as acting as the office administrator.

Shannon has been in Chapter BF, Chandler, Arizona, since 1985. Eight of Shannon’s extended family are P.E.O. sisters. Shannon’s state-level service has kept her family, including all the BILs, involved from giving the blessing in Navajo at the 59th Convention of International Chapter, to hauling horse trailers full of P.E.O. stuff, to making a cupcake display stand that rivaled any on “Cupcake Wars.”

Shannon has a blended family: eight children, 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She has known her husband, Grady, since junior high school but only reconnected with him in 1997 before they married in 1999. During her free time, Shannon enjoys traveling, hunting and her horses.

**Marla Hunt**  
Arkansas  
*Doing More for Women for 150 Years*

Marla Hunt is a charter member of Chapter DG, Fayetteville, Arkansas, and was initiated in 1997 by Chapter K, also of Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Marla has been married to Dennis Hunt for 42 years and they have a son and daughter-in-law, Brian and Dyan, a three-year-old grandson, Ethan, and twin future P.E.O.s born in June. Marla and Dennis are members of First United Methodist Church in Little Rock, and enjoy condo life in downtown Little Rock, and split their time between Little Rock and Fayetteville.

Marla worked in retail management and operations for 19 years and for a public relations agency for 10 years. She is a lifelong community volunteer, especially through Junior Leagues in Fort Smith, Fayetteville, and Little Rock, and served as president in 1999–2000. She has been a Court Appointed Special Advocate since 1993. She loves to spend time with her family, travel far and often, cook when she chooses but not on demand and to read at every opportunity.
**BECKY CLINES**

**California**

*Make Your Moments*

Becky Clines is a fourth-generation P.E.O. She was initiated into Chapter TJ, Del Mar, California, in 1998: her great-grandmother, grandmother and mother’s chapter. After her kids were born, she transferred to Chapter VI, Carlsbad, which met in the evenings, and in 2013, she became a charter member of Chapter XX in Carlsbad.

She and her husband, Darreck, live in Carlsbad with their children: Dayna (age 16) and Owen (age 15). Her husband Darreck is an accountant, Dayna will be starting 11th grade in the fall and Owen will enter 10th grade. Both kids participate in the marching band, and Owen is active in his Boy Scout troop and runs on the high school cross country and track and field teams. Becky works full time as a sales director for a small biotech company that manufactures growth media for yeast cells. All extra time goes to the California sisterhood, chauffeuring kids to and from practices and managing an exuberant two-year-old Great Dane.

Becky graduated from the University of California, Irvine, with a degree in English and you will find her with a book in her hands every spare second she has. She loves travel and adventure, spending time with her family (anywhere but camping) and finding a good happy hour.

**NANCY SPARKS**

**Connecticut**

*P.E.O. A Gift for Life*

Nancy Sparks was born in Alabama and grew up in Hialeah, Florida. She attended Miami Dade College and worked for Eastern Airlines as a reservations agent and a manpower specialist. She married her high school sweetheart, Jim; they have three sons. During Jim’s retail career, they lived in five different states.

While living in Massachusetts, Nancy was given the gift of P.E.O. She was initiated into Chapter A in 1997. She moved to Rocky Hill, Connecticut, and transferred to Chapter D. It was in Chapter D that she met her dear friend, Marti Kalar. The Kalars and the Sparks took many trips together including two International Conventions. Marti entered Chapter Eternal several years ago, but Nancy cherishes her memories of their adventures.

Nancy moved to Milford, then Huntington, Connecticut, and transferred to Chapter V, Trumbull. She’s been president of Chapter V and chaired many committees. She was also on the State Nominating Committee and was state historian.

Nancy enjoys reading, walking, aqua fit, playing cards, photography and her family. She has five granddaughters and one grandson. She cares for the youngest granddaughter two days a week and those are her best days!

**FRAN HUNT**

**Florida**

*Faith, Trust and Daisy Dust...I Do Believe in P.E.O.*

Fran Hunt is a second-generation P.E.O. initiated into Chapter G, Wellington, Florida, in 1992. She served her state on the Finance Committee and held many chapter offices. Later she was blessed to take part in her daughter and granddaughter’s initiations. After moving to The Villages, she transferred to Chapter IG.

Fran was born in Florida and moved from Florida to Tennessee, New York, California and finally New Jersey, before graduating high school. She attended Ithaca College for three years before leaving to get married. She and her first husband moved back to Florida where son, Paul and daughter, Heather were born.

Fran finished her degree at Florida Atlantic University receiving a B.S. in accounting and soon after became a CPA. She had a succession of accounting jobs and, in 1996, accepted a position at The PGA of America as the director of finance. Two years ago, she retired after 20 years.

Fran and her second husband, Fred, have been married for 30 years and together have five children, 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Fran’s free time is spent with family, at church, playing golf, cross stitching and spending time with family and friends at Disney World. Music plays a big role in her life. She plays guitar, piano and is learning ukulele.
Sue Hauseman
Georgia

A Patchwork of Sisters

Sue Hauseman was born and raised in eastern Pennsylvania. She graduated from Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pennsylvania, with a degree in math and taught public school for six years before deciding to change her life direction. She went to work for General Motors Acceptance Corporation (GMAC) in Dayton, Ohio, in 1977, earned her MBA in finance from Indiana University and retired from GMAC in Detroit, Michigan, almost 30 years later. After moving to Georgia, Sue served as adjunct instructor in math at Reinhardt University for eight years.

Sue was initiated into Chapter FE, Novi, Michigan, in 2003. In 2006, when she moved to Georgia, she experienced one of the joys of P.E.O. membership as she was greeted there by sisters in several chapters. She transferred to Chapter AX, Canton, Georgia, and in 2011, she helped organize a new chapter and was a charter member of Chapter BP, Jasper, Georgia. She has served in various offices in that chapter. Sue was appointed to the Georgia State Scholarship Committee in 2011 and chaired the committee three years later.

Sue has been active in her church wherever she has lived—particularly in the choir, as music has always been an important part of her life. In her spare time—when that exists—she loves to read, quilt, play the piano and spend time with her dogs.

Teresa Baillie
Idaho

Sunshine, Smiles and Sisterhood

Teresa Baillie was initiated into Chapter M, Kellogg, Idaho, in 1997. She became a part of a family legacy with her grandmother and mother, both members of Chapter M. The circle has widened to include her three sisters and two daughters. She held many offices and served on several committees in Chapter M.

Born and raised in Kellogg, Idaho, Teresa returned to that area to raise her family. She was an educator for 31 years, teaching various elementary grades. She was also a Title I teacher, lead teacher and served on many district committees. She received her B. A. from Boise State University in Boise, Idaho, and has endorsements in library science and driver’s training. She now serves as an educational consultant for her local district.

Serving as an educator in the town where she was born and raised was a high point in Teresa’s life.

Teresa and her husband, John, love to travel and have visited 49 states and just have Hawaii left to visit. They enjoy spending time with their two daughters and their families and following the grandchildren in their activities. They spend summers enjoying time on beautiful Coeur d’Alene Lake in northern Idaho. Teresa enjoys the time she serves our P.E.O. Sisterhood.

Karen Fritz
Indiana

P.E.O. – Leading with 20/20 Vision

Karen Fritz was born and raised in northwest Indiana, the oldest of four daughters, and returned to the area after college, to the city of Valparaiso where she still resides.

Karen holds bachelor and master’s degrees in secondary education from Ball State University and taught middle school English, geography and history for 21 years, retiring in 1998.

She met her BIL, Barry, a business administrator for a school corporation, while in high school through the county’s 4-H program. Yes, she married her high school sweetheart and lived happily ever after. They raised a son, James, of Indianapolis, and daughters, Julie and Leslee, who reside in Michigan and Utah. She has three adult grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Karen was initiated into Chapter BO, Valparaiso, in 1973 and has served every local chapter office except treasurer. She became involved with the STAR Scholarship during its first year as a project, serving as Indiana’s state chair of STAR for three years.

Karen and Barry loved to travel, visiting all 50 states before he passed away in 2007. Karen continued traveling and has now visited all seven continents. She enjoys being a member of Kiwanis, the Y.M.C.A., reading, crossword puzzles, sports and volunteering at her church’s resale shop and at a local hospital.
Julie Paxton
Kentucky

2020, A clear vision: believing in the value of women helping women

Julie Paxton was initiated into Chapter G, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, in 1992. She was born in Lexington, Kentucky, raised in western Kentucky, and has lived in eastern Kentucky for the past 32 years.

Julie earned her B.A. in journalism from the University of Kentucky and her J.D. from Salmon P. Chase College of Law.

She is an attorney and is in-house counsel for a community mental health agency. She has been a prosecutor and was the first family court judge to serve in the 31st and 36th circuits in Kentucky.

Julie is married to Marty Osborne. They have two children, Jackson and Clara, and two pound pups, Skyler and Buster.

Julie enjoys gardening, cooking, Kentucky basketball and football, reading, traveling and the beach.

Julie has been on the Board of Directors of Jenny Wiley Theatre (1986–2006), Big Sandy Community Technical College and Big Sandy College Foundation. She is a member of the First United Methodist Church and taught Sunday school for 25 years. She was president of the Floyd County Bar Association from 1987–1989.

Kristine Lyons
Louisiana

Celebrating the Past, Treasuring the Present, Envisioning the Future

Kris Lyons first heard about P.E.O. from her mother, Janice, who was in Chapter CF, Nebraska City, Nebraska. She told Kris, “If you ever receive an invitation to join P.E.O., accept it!” Kris did just that and on June 10, 2016, was initiated as a charter member of Chapter BI in Lake Charles, Louisiana. Kris’s sister, aunt and step-sister are also P.E.O.’s.

Kris grew up in Nebraska City, Nebraska, and graduated from Nebraska Methodist School of Nursing in Omaha, Nebraska, and earned her Master of Science in Nursing from Walden University. Kris moved to Louisiana in 1990. She has worked as a registered nurse in a variety of settings. Kris is currently the chief quality transformation officer at West Calcasieu Cameron Hospital in Sulphur, Louisiana.

Kris is active in her church and community. She’s served on three medical mission teams in Honduras and as a chaperone/team nurse with stateside youth mission teams. Kris currently serves on the personnel team and as an AWANA leader in her church. She has also served on Relay for Life teams.

Kris and her husband, Darrel, have been married for six years. Together they have four grown children, Amanda, James, Alexander and Claire. In her spare time Kris enjoys a good book, traveling, quilting, her husband’s cooking, ringing hand bells, playing the piano, relaxing with her family and two rescue dogs and all things Mardi Gras.

Catherine McLaren
Manitoba–Northwest Ontario

Share the Magic of P.E.O.

Catherine McLaren was initiated into Chapter R, Brandon, Manitoba, in 2007 and has enjoyed every step of her P.E.O. journey. Her Chapter R sisters enrich her life in many ways, and she is thankful for their continued support as she undertakes new roles in the Sisterhood.

Catherine grew up on a farm near Warren, Manitoba. She earned her B.Sc. from the University of Manitoba and her Certificate in Education from Brandon University. Her career included 23 years in the classroom, specializing in French and French immersion, and eight years as the technology in learning consultant in Brandon School Division. Following retirement, she worked as a substitute teacher and as a faculty of education field experience supervisor for eight years.

Catherine and her BIL have two married children and four grandchildren. They love to travel both near and far when they aren’t busy with Shrine Club activities and summer parades with Brandon Shriners Car Patrol. They are members of the Hydro-X Club and volunteer for the local Meals on Wheels Program. Every spring, Catherine assists at the Brandon Festival of the Arts.

In her spare time, Catherine indulges her passions of reading, photography, genealogy…and, of course, grandparenting!
Cathryn Cates
Massachusetts
Celebrate! P.E.O. 150, 80

Cathryn “Cat” Cates is a third-generation P.E.O. Like many P.E.O.s, she was initiated into her mother’s chapter—Chapter M, Simsbury, Connecticut, in 1987. This completed the circle for Cathryn as she was adopted by Claire and Jack Cates at the urging of the Illinois State Organizer at the time. Lucille introduced Claire and Jack to the concept of adoption and then Cat came along shortly thereafter. Cat grew up in her early years in Deerfield, Illinois, followed by Simsbury, Connecticut. Cat is now a member of Chapter C, Belmont, Massachusetts.

Cat attended Emerson College where she received a B.S. in mass communications with a focus on broadcast journalism.

Cat worked for many years as a producer of corporate events before starting her own company Black Cat Productions (BCP) LLC, which has been in operation since 2002. At BCP, Cat and her husband, Adam, work together designing, producing and staging corporate events of all sizes, including sales meetings, user conferences and awards ceremonies, both domestically and internationally.

In her spare time, Cat spends time with her husband on their boat at their second home in Conneaut Lake, Pennsylvania. Cat enjoys walking her dogs Lillie and Luna, cooking, golfing, boating and word search puzzles.

Nancy Locke Loudin
Nevada
Serving, Learning, Loving

Nancy Locke Loudin was born and raised in Southern California. She is a recent newlywed, marrying Richard Loudin of Boulder City, on March 30, 2018. Together they have a blended family of five children, all grown with families of their own.

Nancy and Rich love traveling around the globe. They have visited Maine, Colorado, California, Alaska, Canada and Mexico. Top on their list was a visit to Scrub Island, British Virgin Islands. Future travel plans include a European river cruise and a visit to the Greek Islands.

Nancy’s other volunteer positions include serving on the board of directors at Grace Community Church and the school board at Grace Christian Academy.

Educated at University of California, Santa Barbara in mathematics and University of California, Irvine in ballet (BFA), Nancy has a diverse background. She is a tax preparer as an enrolled agent for the Internal Revenue Service and an accountant.

Beth Staples was initiated into Chapter M, Westwood, New Jersey, in 1977. Beth followed her mother, sister and grandmother (in that order) into the Sisterhood and, recently, was privileged to give the gift of P.E.O. to both of her nieces.

For nearly 30 years, Beth was the chief-of-staff for three successive New Jersey assemblywomen, helping to craft legislation and handling a myriad of constituent concerns. She was a Westwood Borough councilwoman and continues to serve on local town committees.

A mezzo-soprano, Beth has worked for years as a concert artist and church soloist. She earned her Bachelor of Music in voice performance from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and her master’s in voice from Florida State University.

With a P.E.O. ELF loan and while working full time, she earned her Master of Theological Studies from Drew University. A church elder, she established a pet ministry program to visit area nursing homes.

In her retirement, Beth dips and boxes homemade chocolates at Conrad’s Confectionery and enjoys hiking, kayaking, reading and vacations with her extended family.★
Women in STEM Retreat Educates and Inspires

Chapter TZ, San Diego, California, hosts an annual retreat for their sisters and guests. The topics vary from year to year, but the topic of this year’s retreat was “Women in STEM: Across the Generations.” It was held on March 2 in San Diego, California. It was a great topic and a great day! STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

The retreat chairman, Deborah Hunka, opened the event with a welcome, shared some details about her own career in science, talked about some women in STEM “GOATs” (Greatest Of All Time) and their struggles and triumphs, and introduced the four speakers of the day. Each speaker was from a different branch of STEM, and each was also from a different generation. This gave everyone some very unique perspectives about what it was like to be a woman in STEM 50 years ago versus what it is like today. Although there are definite differences, there are also still many similarities.

Box of Sea Glass Raffled Off to Raise Funds for P.E.O.

Last fall, Erin Huff, HM, Sequim, Washington, purchased a quantity of sea glass from a friend with the idea to create a beautiful box of treasures to raffle off as a P.E.O. fundraiser. Ticket sales for the raffle rolled in from many chapters in Washington and raised $1,200, which Chapter HM contributed to P.E.O. projects.

Janet Best, FW, Olympia, Washington, was the lucky winner of the raffle. An artist herself, Janet will put the pieces to good use.
Traveling Tea Party Keeps All Sisters Connected

Sisters in Chapter LM, Columbia, Missouri, want to keep sisters who are no longer able to attend regular meetings connected. Membership chairman, Karen Ridge, created the Traveling Tea Party. A homebound sister is contacted first to set a date and time. Then as many as three other sisters are invited to join the tea party. Chapter LM sisters found this to be a delightfully exciting and inspiring activity.

On the day of the party, a picnic basket with china daisy tea cups and saucers, napkins, a variety of teas and other necessary items are taken for the tea party. Sisters bring small treats, keeping it simple and elegant. Honoring a sister with a tea party makes an ordinary visit extra special.

P.E.O.s Take Mirth to Local Hospitals

Three mornings a month, P.E.O. members (and one BIL) from the Hot Springs Village area of Arkansas, don colorful clown costumes to cheer up the often dreary days at area hospitals, rehab centers and assisted living facilities.

With conversation, the occasional song, and good wishes, the clowns carry on a 30-year “laughter is the best medicine” tradition in their community. The clowns are registered volunteers in all the locations they visit and have completed volunteer training programs. While clowns are usually associated with children, those visited are almost always seniors or otherwise mature adults.

From the left: “Trouble”, aka BIL Dick Nelson; “Meme Macaroni”, aka Janice Jensen, Chapter CY; “Smarty Pants”, aka Jane Browning, Chapter CY; “Giggles”, aka Jan Smith-Wyrick, Chapter CU; and “Freckles”, aka Marina Young, Chapter CR

FUNDRAISER CONCERT Raises Over $6,000 for P.E.O. Projects

Through the generosity of soprano Michele Byrd-Gerlach and her family, Chapter HP, Naples, Florida, raised over $6,000, marking the chapter’s most profitable fundraiser to date. Soprano Michele’s thoughtfully-prepared program featured music composed by women, music representing the five P.E.O. virtues, music honoring God and music honoring those we have lost. The concert was a multi-generational effort featuring Michele’s BIL, Brice, on piano; son, Colin, playing violin and Colin’s godfather, James Cochran, on organ. At intermission, chapter president, Clare Kopf, delivered an impassioned talk describing P.E.O.’s projects. Following the concert, guests were treated to a light supper prepared by HP sisters. Marguerites adorned the reception area and posters featuring P.E.O. projects, P.E.O. fliers and HP’s award recipients were displayed for concert goers to view. Best of all, HP sisters enjoyed fellowship and a sense of accomplishment.
NEW chapters

**CHAPTER JR**
Lakeway, Texas

**ORGANIZED:** February 16, 2019

First row, from the left:
Sheryl Shuster, Martha Mohler, Lynn Vogel, Becky Lanier, Diane Daley, Jeanne Ann Klein, Peggy Price

Second row:
Kay Threadgill, Tracy Barba, Jane Wilson, Karen Palmer, Janice Zehrer, Darlene Urbanek, Linda Wyland, Betty Haley

Third row:
Billie Robinson, Linda Williams, Betty Tully, Susan Hicks, Roxan Renner

**CHAPTER JS**
Katy, Texas

**ORGANIZED:** February 23, 2019

First row, from the left:
Erin Fair, Beth Smith, Jill Tatum, Kristin Foster, Poppy Teel

Second row:
Kristen Di Napoli, Christie Vial, Donna Young, Ellen Norton, Sue Chappell, Marlo Longoria

Third row:
Beth Carr, Becky Copeland, Jennifer Radulovic, Jill Sampson, Ali Triplett

Fourth row:
Dolly Norton, Elma Hasimbegovic, Margie Green

**CHAPTER BJ**
Memphis, Tennessee

**ORGANIZED:** February 23, 2019

First row, from the left:
Debi Havner, Katie Griffin, Julie Olsen, Julie Olsen, Donna Davis, Anne Castrodale, Mary Tayloe

Second row:
Mary E. Stratton, Sheila Siegal, Melissa Booth, Ann Griffin, Carol Wong, Laurie Monypeny

Third row:
Jenny Fehrenbacher, Marisa Rouse, Barrie Simpson

**CHAPTER JT**
Buda, Texas

**ORGANIZED:** March 9, 2019

First row, from the left:
Lucy Ybarra, Erin Williams, Jill Tatum, Jody Wright, Joyce Brown, Jennie Olsen

Second row:
Janell Pemberton, Pat Flanders, Lisa Stolf, Janel Ryan, Georgette Elwell, Merridith Cary, Sharon Murphy, Julie Petrus, Joyce Skloss, Michele Burns, Lisa Tozer, Michelle McGehee
As far back as the late 1990s, wealth coach Barbara Huson had this to say about women and money:

“As women feel financially secure and personally empowered, thoughts shift from ‘What do I have?’ to ‘How much can I give?’"”

This view of women as philanthropists in their own right continues to evolve, though we need to shake the belief that wealth is defined by how many zeros and commas are in the dollars. Through legacy giving, fund growth and donations, the P.E.O. Foundation has supported P.E.O.’s six philanthropies. Because of your financial gifts, the Foundation has given over $28 million in undesignated fund distributions since its inception in 1961. Your support of P.E.O. can have a ripple effect throughout generations, not only for the recipients of our grants, loans and awards, but also for their families and communities. You empower others by giving the gift of education.

YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE, BECAUSE YOU ARE A PHILANTHROPIST. ★
CENTENNIAL | chapters

CHAPTER BB ★ MARYSVILLE, KANSAS

ORGANIZED: April 30, 1919
CELEBRATED: April 30, 2019

First row, from the left: Peggy Link, Lucia Brodrick, Sharon Kessinger Second row: Dixie Talbot, Barb Buck, Nancy Padden, Kathi Menzel Third row: Sally Oliver, Bette Lammerding Fourth row: Pat Schramm, Julie Popejoy Fifth row: Cheri Hamel, Hannah Malotte Sixth row: Cathy Cashier, JoAnn Walcott, Mona Musil, Denise Ryan, Zita Duensing, Laura Musil, Gloria Smith, Kathie Rueger, Carly Tyler, Ashley Mason, Darlene Boss, Vickie Philippi, Marilyn Sweet, Stacy Wullschleger, Jana Whitesell, Vickie Kyner

CHAPTER AZ ★ EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

ORGANIZED: January 28, 1919
CELEBRATED: January 28, 2019

First row, from the left: Judy Reuter, Martha Ann Johnson, Elizabeth Markel Second row: Amy Wolf, Karen Markel Uthe, Annette Johnson

Celebrate 150 years at Convention of International Chapter!

Visit the Book Store
Purchase the coffee table history book "We Who Are Sisters" and own a piece of P.E.O. history. Books will be available and you can meet the authors and cover artist in the Book Store on P.E.O. Main Street!

Shop at Herff Jones
Visit the Herff Jones Jewelry Store on P.E.O. Main Street where you can shop limited-edition jewelry including the new sesquicentennial celebration charm and other P.E.O. favorites.

Check out the Heritage Gallery
Join us at this once-in-a-lifetime exhibit where we will showcase the past, present and future of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. Learn about the incredible legacy left by the Founders and builders of the organization by seeing historical artifacts from the P.E.O. archives and by speaking with the Founders through our living museum. You won’t want to miss the Heritage Gallery on P.E.O. Main Street!

Can’t make it to Convention? Visit www.peo150.org for more details on purchasing the book or charms.★
P.E.O.s IN THE spotlight

PENNY WILS

Penny Wils, Y, Prescott, Arizona, received the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE) 2018 Presidents Award. Penny was president of Yavapai College from 2011 until the end of 2018, when she retired. Penny successfully merged Yavapai College’s mission of educating students with encouraging regional economic development and community engagement, opening the doors to many innovative partnerships.

NACCE is an organization of educators, administrators, presidents and entrepreneurs focused on inciting entrepreneurship in their community and on their campus. NACCE has two main goals: to empower the college to approach the business of running a community college with an entrepreneurial mindset and to grow the community college’s role in supporting job creation and entrepreneurs in their local ecosystem.

JANE HANSON

Jane Hanson, CE, Arapahoe, Nebraska, was awarded the President’s Lifetime Achievement Award for her volunteer work in gifted education as a Mensa Foundation Trustee. The award is reserved for individuals who complete more than 4,000 hours of service. Jane has been a trustee with the Mensa Foundation since 2013, assisting with the group’s national scholarship program and serving as a member of the Gifted Advocacy initiative. Jane is a third-generation P.E.O. and works at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in the Programs in English as a Second Language.

HELEN WITTY

Helen Witty, AK, Miami, Florida, was elected national president of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) effective January 1, 2019. Helen joined MADD in 2000 after her 16-year-old daughter, Helen Marie, was killed by a drunk and drugged driver while rollerblading on designated bike path near the family’s home in Miami.

“I landed in MADD’s capable lap, completely shattered,” Helen said. “I cherish the opportunity to comfort those so deeply impacted by the crime of impaired driving, to listen to their stories and give the empathy and encouragement I received. It is our stories that hold the power and unite us.”

As president, Helen will serve as national spokesperson and chief advocate for MADD. She spent 11 years as a MADD volunteer victim advocate and seven years as a staff member in Miami, sharing her story with school children, police officers, federal agents and hospital workers, among others. She has delivered MADD’s message in classrooms, churches, airports, seaports and to local and national television audiences.

CHINASA IZEOGU SEYSE

Chinasa Izeogu Seyse, AN, Scotia, New York, was recently chosen to sit on the 2019 Caldecott Medal Selection Committee. The Caldecott Medal is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children.

Chinasa is a youth services librarian at the Schenectady County Public Library and will be participating in the selection of the 2019 Caldecott winner as she reads over 700 books submitted for consideration.

Chinasa says, “Being appointed is a special honor. I’m still a new professional and have much to learn from all the wonderful, talented and smart librarians working toward keeping libraries and education relevant. I’m hopeful it [sitting on the committee] will make me a better librarian and open doors to serving my industry and community better.”
**CHERYL SMITH**

Cheryl Smith, AW, Clarkston, Michigan, wrote “I’ll Pay You Ten Camels – and Other Tales of the Mother Daughter Journey,” about the relationship between an adult mother and her adult daughter. A trip to Cyprus and Turkey becomes an unlikely metaphor to describe the special bond between a mother and her daughter. In this memoir, discover how the grace born of this unique relationship expresses itself over and over again. Memories from childhood echo and then blossom into deeper meaning along the way.

**JEANNE M. BLANCHET**

Jeanne M. Blanchet, CC, Sun City, Arizona, wrote “Forger of Empire: a Novel of Genghis Khan.” In mid-12th century Mongolia, a baby boy was born clutching a blood clot in his fist, a sign portending future greatness and power. As a young man, against horrific odds, he rose from poverty, slavery and obscurity to build the world’s largest contiguous land empire in history. His father had named him Temüjin, but he became known to the world as Genghis Khan. “Forger of Empire” is based on his incredible, thrilling story.

**VALERIE WALLACE**

Valerie Wallace, DE, Chicago, Illinois, has published “House of McQueen,” which won the Four Way Books Intro Prize in Poetry. “Inhabiting the life and work of Alexander McQueen, Valerie builds a fantastical world using both original language and excerpts drawn from interviews, supermodels, Shakespeare, Poe and more.” Valerie received an Illinois Arts Council Literary Award and the San Miguel de Allende Writers Conference Award in Poetry. She earned her MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and is the Associate Director of Communications for the project Virtue, Happiness and the Meaning of Life at the University of Chicago.

**CAROL A. KING**

Carol A. King, Y, Princeton, New Jersey, is the author of “Where Shall I Live When I Retire?,” a resource for singles and couples planning the next step of their lives or assisting family members in finding care facilities. The book grew out of Carol’s post-retirement job running programs on lifestyle in retirement at the Princeton Senior Resource Center and her own experience with moving to an independent senior living community. The book takes a big picture, long range view of housing needs and how they change as people age. There are chapters on housing alternatives, including relocating, moving and downsizing, 55 plus and independent living communities, and home health care services, assisted living and nursing homes. The book contains numerous links to online resources. Carol has both an MBA and a Ph.D. from New York University and is a Certified Retirement Coach.

**CARRIE STUART PARKS**

Carrie Stuart Parks, M, Kellogg, Idaho, wrote “Portrait of Vengeance” the fourth book in the Gwen Marcey Novel series. This book tells the story of forensic artist Gwen Marcey investigating the case of a missing child in Lapwai, Idaho. Details keep surfacing that are eerily similar to her childhood traumas. As Gwen’s past and present collide, she is in a desperate race for the truth, because only truth will ensure she still has a future.

Carrie is an award-winning, internationally-known forensic artist. Over the past 36 years, she has worked on major criminal cases for such agencies as the FBI and ATF as well as numerous police and sheriff’s departments throughout the U.S. She is the author of over 20 books, both fiction and non-fiction.

**LISA SCHELLER**

Lisa Scheller, AC, Saint John, Kansas, wrote “The Story of The Bear.” The book is for adult caregivers to read to children who have lost a loved one to suicide. Lisa originally wrote the story in 1989 to help her then-young children understand their grandfather’s suicide. While she wanted them to understand their grandfather’s motive, she also wanted them to understand that he had a choice, which if one looks further, a better answer may appear. Lisa decided to publish “The Story of The Bear” in hopes that it might help others create an avenue of opening a difficult conversation with loved ones.
Sarah Donohoe, HE, Overland Park, Kansas, wrote “Slices of Life, Estes Park: Best of the Thunker Columns.” Sarah is known as The Thunker when her weekly column appears in the Estes Park News. “Slices of Life” is a collection of some of the best of those columns. Each column is a neighborly chat over the back fence with topics such as scheming about how to chase ground squirrels from the yard or deciding what the Tooth Fairy’s going rate is.

Katy England and Mari Loder, BW, Salina, Kansas, collaborated to publish “I Love You As Much,” which features comparisons of a parent’s love for a child while exploring God’s creation and “Where Is God?,” which explores the vastness of the presence of God found in abundance in all creation. Mari wrote the books and Katy provided illustrations. The sisters have talked about this collaboration for many years and are excited to have it come to fruition.

Linda Kuhlmann Harris, FH, McMinnville, Oregon, wrote “Koenig’s Spirit,” an international mystery set in 1971. George Mason is preparing his next hope for the Triple Crown. Along the way, he gets involved with the owner of his colt’s rival, but someone is seeking revenge and sets George up to take the fall. Meanwhile, Emma and Sam Parker return to Oregon from their European honeymoon to begin building their lives together. Conflict grows when their separate passions threaten to pull them apart. When all come together for the Preakness Stakes in Baltimore, the second jewel in the Triple Crown, Koenig’s Spirit races for the wire.

Victoria Hineman Loberg, R, Peoria, Illinois, wrote “Dr. Anna Swain Adams, 1840-1887,” the third and final book in her series about Peoria’s medical history. This book details Anna’s journey from a small Quaker town in Pennsylvania to eventually practice medicine in Peoria. In 1875, she became the first female member and officer of the Peoria City Medical Society, which had been founded in 1848. Related by marriage to a Native American woman who also made history, Anna’s family tree also include a Civil War prisoner of war, a mysterious adopted son and manager of the richest copper mine in the United States.

Nimat Hafez Barazangi, BD, Ithaca, New York, wrote “Woman’s Identity and Rethinking the Hadith.” This book is a first step in a comprehensive attempt to contrast Hadith, Islamic traditions, with the Qur’an in order to uncover some of the practices by Muslims concerning women and gender issues. Though centuries of scholarship were spent on the authentication and trustworthiness of the narrators, there has been less study focused on the contents of these narratives, known as Hadith or Sunnah, and their corroboration by the primary source of Islam, the Qur’an.

Sarah Donohoe
Overland Park, Kansas

Katy England
Mari Loder
Salina, Kansas

Linda Kuhlmann Harris
McMinnville, Oregon

Victoria Hineman Loberg
Peoria, Illinois

Nimat Hafez Barazangi
Ithaca, New York

Johnnie Bernhard
Biloxi, Mississippi

Sherry Galloway Willis
Wellington, Kansas

Sherry’s other published books are “Cowboy Tad the Triangle Man” and “Rex the Mighty Rectangle,” which both deal with issues of friendship, acceptances of differences, courage and fear of bullying. Sherry enjoys presenting her stories at area schools. She has been a P.E.O. for 38 years.

Sherry Galloway Willis
ET, Wellington, Kansas

Koenig’s Spirit races for the wire.

Roady’s Rescue,” which is the true story of a local pig that is rescued and becomes a treasured pet. This story helps children deal with loss.

Linda Kuhlmann Harris
FH, McMinnville, Oregon

This book details Anna’s journey from a small Quaker town in Pennsylvania to eventually practice medicine in Peoria. In 1875, she became the first female member and officer of the Peoria City Medical Society, which had been founded in 1848. Related by marriage to a Native American woman who also made history, Anna’s family tree also include a Civil War prisoner of war, a mysterious adopted son and manager of the richest copper mine in the United States.

Sherry Galloway Willis

This book is a retired elementary and preschool educator. Her latest children’s book is entitled “Roady’s Rescue,” which is the true story of a local pig that is rescued and becomes a treasured pet. This story helps children deal with loss.

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Johnnie Bernhard
Biloxi, Mississippi

Johnnie Bernhard, D, Biloxi, Mississippi, is the author of “A Good Girl,” a work of historical fiction covering three centuries of a family in Ireland and their immigration path to America and “How We Came to Be,” a novel about a teacher and a mother in Houston, Texas. Johnnie is a former English educator and journalist. Currently she enjoys a career as an award-winning author. Johnnie was a 2018 nominee for the Mississippi Institute for Arts and Letters in Fiction.

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WHERE IN THE WORLD

Cheri Joyce, MS, Warrenton, MO, on a flight over the skies of Missouri

Ashley Hoschar and Leslie Nutt, ET, Hudson, OH, with 2016-2017 IPS student Chynarkul Ryskulova (from Kyrgyzstan) and her daughter at Niagara Falls

Miranda Potter, Julie Potter, and Lynn Haakenson, AW, Osage, IA, in San Diego, California

Tamara Koss, CK, Indialantic, FL, in Nuku Hiva in the Marquesas Islands, South Pacific

Sharon Tandberg, Past President, Montana State Chapter, on Pitcairn Island

Grace Kinney, H, Ketchikan, AK, on the Galapagos Islands

Renee Pelofske, CW, Milwaukie, OR, near Kinderdijk windmills in Netherlands

Kay Whitener, EH, Festus, MO; Jeanne Cline, DG, Minneapolis, MN; Alice Reim, EH, Festus, MO, and Jackie Duncan, EH, Festus, MO, at the Alhambra in Granada, Spain
Pack the latest issue of The P.E.O. Record when you travel! Snap some pics and send them in—you could be featured in a future issue of the magazine. Visit our Facebook page to see a gallery of more submissions.

Send photos to mediamanager@peodsm.org.
Upon discharge as an officer from the Army Air Force at the conclusion of WWII, my dad (from New Jersey) and my mom (from Texas) moved to Albuquerque and my dad enrolled at the University of New Mexico where he earned a B.S. in civil engineering. I was born midway through his college career and by the time he had graduated and I could hold crayons, I was drawing on scraps of tracing paper and the white side of paper with the other side mostly blue with strange lines and words I did not yet comprehend. He would sometimes come home from his work with the Army Corp of Engineers with his “tools”—several slide rules, one of which was in a holster he could fasten on his belt, metal protractors and a leather case with fine drawing pencils and compasses.

That era was the early to mid-50s, and some 800 miles from Albuquerque a group in Missouri was formulating a new chapel for Cottey College. Members of that group were contemporaries of my dad and were using the same tools with just about everything done by hand. There were planners, architects, engineers, consultants and draftsmen who undoubtedly produced hundreds of drawings, renderings and, of course, blueprints. Their efforts would guide construction crews charged with accurately and reliably building the chapel.

The present Cottey Chapel is very much a statement of the 1950s, when it was approved by the P.E.O. Executive and Cottey College Boards. The chapel needs to move from its 1950s legacy and be updated. Approvals have been granted and drawings and renderings show an updated Cottey chapel and new student center incorporate, for the first time ever on campus, a student center. President of Cottey College Dr. Jann Weitzel says, “This new student center will provide inviting and relaxing areas for students, faculty and staff to congregate. Additionally, the upper level of the Chapel will be updated by adding air-conditioning and new technology, making a more appealing place for concerts, lectures, weddings and special events.”

There won’t be blueprints for the Chapel update and new student center; instead, builders will utilize computer-generated construction documents. However, that other blueprint definition holds true: “The blueprint for the updated Cottey chapel and new student center encourages today’s BILs to follow the example of the 1950’s BILs who paid for the construction of the chapel.”

How better for BILs to learn of this opportunity than to join their P.E.O’s this September 12–14 in Des Moines, Iowa, for the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the P.E.O. Sisterhood? The organizers of this special Convention of International Chapter are providing BILs with plenty of activities! There will be a dedicated BIL hospitality area that includes a pool table and Cottey College will be hosting several BIL events in the Cottey Room (Wednesday 4–5 p.m. and Saturday 10–11 a.m.) including the presentation of the architectural model of the Chapel update and new student center. Check out the March/April 2019 issue of The P.E.O. Record for area tours and activities during Convention. Because of my active involvement in steam locomotive restoration, I am most interested in the John Deere Green factory tour to “…see how some of their biggest machines are brought to life in some of the most modern and efficient factories in the world.”

All in all, this should be a great opportunity for BILs to get together for many reasons. I look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones. I hope to see many BILs in Des Moines! ★

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

A rendering of what the new Chapel/Student Center will look like

A 3-D model of the Cottey Chapel and Student Center
Members may view all items for sale at https://members.peointernational.org/fundraisingmarketplace
Members may view all items for sale at [https://members.peointernational.org/fundraisingmarketplace](https://members.peointernational.org/fundraisingmarketplace)
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P.E.O.’s mission is to 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.

The P.E.O. Sisterhood is a nonprofit organization that has helped more than 109,000 women* pursue educational goals by providing over $344 million* in educational assistance, making a difference in women’s lives through six philanthropies and a foundation:

- **P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund (ELF)** A revolving loan fund established in 1907 to lend money to qualified women students to assist them in securing a higher education. Has loaned $208.2 million.*

- **P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship (IPS)** A fund established in 1949 to provide scholarships for international women students to pursue graduate study in the U.S. and Canada. Has provided $40 million in scholarships.*

- **P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education (PCE)** Established in 1973 to provide need-based grants to women in the U.S. and Canada whose education has been interrupted and who find it necessary to return to school to support themselves and/or their families. Has given $59.2 million in grants.*

- **P.E.O. Scholar Awards (PSA)** Established in 1991 to provide substantial merit-based awards for women of the U.S. and Canada who are pursuing a doctoral-level degree at an accredited college or university. Has awarded $26.7 million in scholarships.*

- **P.E.O. STAR Scholarship (STAR)** Established in 2009 to provide scholarships for exceptional high school senior women to attend an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the U.S. or Canada in the next academic year. Has given $10.7 million in scholarships.*

- **COTTEY COLLEGE** A nationally ranked, fully accredited, independent, liberal arts/sciences college for women located in Nevada, Missouri, has been owned/supported by P.E.O. since 1927 and offers baccalaureate and associate degrees in a variety of majors. Cottey College, a debt-free institution, welcomes women from around the world.

- **THE P.E.O. FOUNDATION** is a nonprofit corporation established in 1961 to encourage tax-deductible giving to the educational and charitable projects of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. It is a service to the Sisterhood.

Individual donors may make tax-deductible gifts to the projects or through the P.E.O. Foundation. Visit www.peointernational.org. Look for the “Giving Opportunities” link on the home page.

*As of April 2019

“Although I have only been a P.E.O. member for a short while, four years, I have absolutely fallen in love with it! The values we share as sisters reflect the values I have in life for my three birth sisters...a loving concern for one another and, in particular, a careful consideration of feeling when speaking is so important to me. How lucky I am to have found an organization that feels the same way!”

—JEANNE HOPKINS
AD-BG, SUPERIOR, WISCONSIN

“It [The P.E.O. Scholar Award] was life changing! When I received the news that I had been granted the award, I sat down and cried. As a first-generation college student from a farming family, the decision to pursue eight more years of combined M.D.-Ph.D. training was not without significant financial difficulty. This award came at a time when I really needed the encouragement. It not only provided support during my final year of medical school, but has allowed me to pursue a postdoctoral research fellowship in Sweden, which is very important in advancing my research.”

—KIMBERLY KRAUTKRAMER
SCHOLAR AWARD RECIPIENT AND RECENT INITIATE INTO CHAPTER Y, BELOIT, WISCONSIN
Sharing the Inspiration and Impact of P.E.O.
As we continue to celebrate 150 years of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, we have a unique opportunity through our national earned media campaign to share the incredible things P.E.O. International and local chapters have done for our communities and across the globe. Please encourage your chapter to think of a remarkable project recipient or an outstanding member achieving extraordinary accomplishments in her community or profession. We’d love to hear these stories for consideration to share through International Chapter communications medium or as part of the international news story. Submit stories online: https://www.peointernational.org/peonews.

Hawaii – Kauai Potential New Chapter
If you have a friend or relative on the island of Kauai who would be interested in P.E.O., please send her contact information to Cathy Moss, cathyjmoss@gmail.com.

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

P.E.O. Visit Day
Plan a visit to see your college this fall. P.E.O. Visit Day is Cottey’s premier visit event for P.E.O.s. It is scheduled for October 26, 2019. This wonderful opportunity includes a campus tour led by students, an update from the president of the College and participation in question-and-answer sessions with students, faculty or staff. Visit http://www.cottey.edu/peo/experience-cottey for more information.

Gifts and Contributions
Our P.E.O. projects can only succeed with the continued support of our membership. Local chapters and individual donations to these projects determine the number of women who are helped each year and the amount that is available to award. Every dollar counts—our projects depend almost entirely on P.E.O. support.

Continue to make your donations as listed below and remember individual gifts to P.E.O. projects and P.E.O. Foundation qualify as a charitable deduction for United States income tax purposes.

- Chapter gifts to projects and P.E.O. Foundation are payable to your state/provincial/district chapter (s/p/d) and should be sent directly to your s/p/d treasurer or paid assistant. Chapter gifts are not tax deductible.
- Individual gifts by check should be made payable to the intended project or P.E.O. Foundation and sent directly to the treasurer of International Chapter in Des Moines. Online donations may be submitted to the project of your choice through the P.E.O. website at https://donations.peointernational.org/.
- Individual gifts for Cottey College are to be sent directly to Cottey.

P.E.O. Project Impact Numbers
The yearly impact P.E.O. is having through its philanthropic projects on women reaching their educational goals were included on the back cover of the May-June 2019 issue of The P.E.O. Record. The information is also available on the P.E.O. member website: https://members.peointernational.org/resource/peo-project-statistics.

As a P.E.O., you should be proud and inspired by helping women reach for the stars!

Convention of International Chapter Updates

Registration Cancellation Policy
Registration and hotel cancellations must be made in writing to registration@peodsm.org no later than 11:59 p.m. CST on Thursday, August 1, 2019. Registration fees are nonrefundable. All cancellations are subject to a $50 cancellation fee. No refunds will be issued after August 1, 2019. Final event confirmations will be sent out in late August. Visit convention.peointernational.org for all the details and to register today! ★
Send completed form, including your former address printed in the upper right corner (or give address at which magazine was last received), six weeks in advance of your move.

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

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

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

**Email**  
membership@peodsm.org

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

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

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**P.E.O. is excited to “Welcome Home” every P.E.O., BIL and guest for this momentous celebration!**

**Visit convention.peointernational.org for complete details.**

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**Welcome Home 1840-2019**  
Celebrating 175 years

**COMMUNITY CHOICE CREDIT UNION CONVENTION CENTER**  
Displays, Workshops, Marketplace, Iowa Room, Heritage Gallery and more!

**Wells Fargo Arena**  
Business Meetings, Opening/Projects Night, 150th Birthday Bash Entertainment

**HY-VEE HALL**  
Meals

**CONVENTION UPDATE!**