Georgia Knows It's OK to Talk About P.E.O.

By Rita Briggs, AF, Peachtree City, Georgia



Georgia State Chapter executive board and Tali with many Georgia P.E.O.s representing their chapters at the state capitol

Thanks to Tali Olmi, Chapter W, Atlanta, Georgians are hearing about P.E.O. from multiple sources.

Last July Tali spearheaded an entry into the Dunwoody, Georgia, 4th of July Parade themed "Honoring Educational Stars." With the help of Jo McBeth, also from Chapter W,



Tami Olmi

two cars were decorated and joined the rainy day parade with P.E.O. magnets and banners. The two of them heard people along the parade route comment, "I know a P.E.O." When they



Jo McBeth with a P.E.O.-themed car that drove in the Dunwoody 4th of July parade

women to help with their education! Look us up on our website!"

After the July festivities, Tali, along with Jo, recruited Melinda Schweer and Nancy England, both in Chapter AQ, Marietta, Georgia, and Nicole Tomaszewski, Chapter A, Atlanta, Georgia, to help create an entry for

When they heard "What's P.E.O.?" they responded with a shout out the window "We give scholarships, grants and loans to women to help with their education! Look us up on our website!"

heard "What's P.E.O.?" they responded with a shout out the window "We give scholarships, grants and loans to the annual Scarecrow in the Gardens at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. The scarecrow, named Marguerite,



Barbara Swann with Marguerite, the P.E.O.-themed scarecrow

came to life and entertained all who came through the gardens before Halloween.

Tali worked at the State Capitol in Atlanta, Georgia, in various capacities over the years. She heard many resolutions adopted recognizing groups and thought, "Why not P.E.O.?" After some research and talking with the chair of the education committee in the Georgia Senate, Tali arranged for February 16 to be the day P.E.O. in Georgia would be recognized. This day is when the state's first chapter was organized in 1935. The Executive Board of Georgia State Chapter entered the Senate chambers as Resolution 906 recognizing the accomplishments of the P.E.O. Sisterhood in Georgia was read and adopted. Senator Fran Millar introduced Rita Briggs, President of Georgia State Chapter, who thanked the Senate for the recognition. Many P.E.O.s from around Georgia attended this exciting event at the state capitol.