



P.E.O. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"A Torch to Light the Future"

CALIFORNIA STATE CHAPTER

November 1999

THE TORCH SHINES BRIGHTLY!

A big hug for each of you my P.E.O. sisters!

A new P.E.O. year is well underway. This is a perfect time for each of us to consider thoughtfully our personal commitment to P.E.O. What a wonderful gift we received when we became a P.E.O. What are we personally doing with that gift? Are we sharing it? Are we showing the loving concern for each sister that is implicit in our objects and aims? Are we living up to the vows we took? Or do we just go to meetings if it's convenient? Do we let the other chapter members fill all the offices? Do we have a whole bag of excuses when we are asked to do a job or participate in an event? Are we making a special effort to welcome and nurture new members? When we know someone at a distance who would be a wonderful P.E.O. do we take the time to send an FR Form to introduce her to a chapter where she lives? Do we make sure the FL Forms (Notice of Member Moving) are sent so our sisters may continue the benefits of a close and loving chapter relationship?

Keep in touch with your inactive members. Help them feel they are still sisters — for they are, you know. "Once a P.E.O. - Always a P.E.O." Include them in your social events. Send them a copy of your president's letter. If you have a chapter newsletter, be sure your inactive sisters receive a copy. One day their lives may change and they will again be ready to resume chapter life. Because you have kept in touch, they will be anxious to return.

Hold high the torch of P.E.O. Let yours be one that lights the future for women everywhere.

My love to each of you. May your year be filled with joy and with P.E.O. love and concern for your sisters.

Charlene Chamberlin, President, C.S.C.

Rx for a Healthy Chapter

In the July-August 1999 issue of THE P.E.O. RECORD Wilma Turner, past president International Chapter, wrote: "Healthy chapters regularly add new members; they are active participants in ... projects; they truly care for one another; and they are optimistic about both the future of their chapter and that of P.E.O." To continue quoting Wilma, "... groups tend to perform in one of three ways—they may decline, they may wane, or they may shine. Which defines your chapter? Which defines you as a P.E.O." Wilma goes on to say: "But I delight in thinking about P.E.O.s and P.E.O. chapters that shine, for they choose to reach out to touch the future.... More than anything else, they have discovered the gifts of loving concern. In addition to caring for one another, they support the P.E.O. projects! Healthy P.E.O. chapters look inward, outward and forward. They reach out to the future!"



CONVENTION CORNER

Theme: "P.E.O.: A Torch to Light the Future"
Colors: Cobalt Blue and Bright, Clear Yellow

Next year's convention will be held May 19 - 21, 2000 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose.

The planning board is working hard to provide an inspirational, informative and fun time for all delegates and visitors. Registration forms will be sent to all chapters in February. Be sure to return yours early - space for visitors is limited.



NOTE: Second Vice President, Peggy Robbins
new address: 594 Warwick, Fresno 93720
new phone: (559) 431-7344

FYI:
The following new programs and skits have been added to the Film Library:

A11 "The Briefcase on the Doorstep"- skit, 1999 Period of Instruction, Brenda J. Atchison, Organizer
C7 "Parliamentary Procedure", 1999 Convention Workshop, Mary Bothwell, Treasurer
E6 "Programs, Anyone?" - 1999 Convention Workshop, Peggy Robbins, Recording Secretary
E7 "Where in the World is Carmen Cottey" - 1999 Workshop, Carolyn Reimiller, VI
To order write Historian: Norma Villet, 700 N. Stoneman Ave, Alhambra 91801. Enclose check for \$2 per item



ANNOUNCING: The Barbara Andes Fund

TO ALL MEMBERS OF CALIFORNIA STATE CHAPTER: A tremendous honor and privilege was recently bestowed upon California State Chapter when Barbara Andes, Past President of California State Chapter, was installed as the recording secretary of International Chapter.

In 2009, Barbara will preside at the Convention of International Chapter in SAN DIEGO! At that time, it will be appropriate to present a gift of appreciation to Barbara for her ten years of dedicated service to the International Executive Board plus her many years of service to California State Chapter and the P.E.O. Sisterhood

The executive board of California State Chapter wishes to invite all members to participate in this tribute by contributing one dollar per chapter member to the Barbara Andes Fund which will be invested for the ten-year period.

Local chapter treasurers are asked to collect the donations and send one chapter check made out to California State Chapter directly to the administrative assistant, Christine Heller, P.O. Box 1099, Alhambra, CA 91802-1099, before March 1, 2000.

Wouldn't it be exciting to have 100% participation!

Approved for Circularization by the Executive Board, C.S.C.

WHAT'S NEW !

* By general consent of the local chapter, its treasurer may be authorized to use Quicken and insert the computer printed pages in the Treasurer's Book.

* ELF chapter sponsorship is now by voice vote. Applicants are needed, we are only utilizing 72% of the available money.

* IPS—new maximum amount! Increased to \$6000. Promote foreign relations and be an ambassador for peace through IPS.

* COTTEY—enrollment is up 22.5% over last year, but there is room for more. "Share the Vision" with new students.

* A woman may apply for both a PCE grant and an ELF loan at the same time as long as she meets the eligibility requirements for both projects.



California heads the list of states in scholarships given to Cottey students, both first-year and second-year. Our California committees do a wonderful job of promoting Cottey. Does your chapter need a program? Call Carolyn Reimiller (760) 438-0122.

News from PCE—California was one of fifteen state chapters that had a significant increase in chapter contributions. Per capita giving in our state went from \$4.15 to \$5.48, an increase of \$1.33 over the previous year. California was also one of seventeen states that contributed more money than we received.

You are all to be congratulated - keep up the good work!



P.E.O. Website: <http://www.peointernational.org>
User Name: sisterhood — password: seven



"All that we send into the lives of others comes back into our own."

— Edwin Markham, American Poet

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The executive board of the California State Chapter is having a very busy year. Our duties cause us to travel all over the state and occasionally out of state.

Organizer, Beverly Anderson, and I traveled to Des Moines in July to attend the Presidents' and Organizers' Conference. This was a three-day period filled with inspiration, information and good fellowship. It was also an opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences with our counterparts from other states. It was a good conference and we both learned a lot.

After the conference, we continued to Mt. Pleasant and Iowa Wesleyan College, the birthplace of P.E.O. It is an indescribable experience to stand in the exact spot our founders stood as they took their vows in 1869.

Thanks to the thoughtfulness of many sisters, an elevator has been installed in Old Main so all may enjoy the rooms of memorabilia.

On September 25, 1999, Chapter F, Arcadia, merged with the Carlsbad proposed chapter group. This merger had the happy result of saving Chapter F's letter and history. Chapter F is now Chapter F, Carlsbad.

On January ninth, a new night chapter will be organized in Coronado, by organizer, Beverly Anderson. And on April first Chapter D, Los Angeles will merge with the Coronado proposed day chapter. There are proposed chapters meeting in South Lake Tahoe, Scotts Valley and Arcadia as well.

First vice president, Brenda Atchison, has also been busy. In June she presided at the formation celebrations of two new reciprocity bureaus — Citrus Reciprocity and Mojave Valley Reciprocity. On March 4, 2000, Brenda will preside as Palomar Reciprocity divides into three reciprocities — Palomar, Santa Margarita and Pomerado.

Brenda also works diligently advising the Membership Committee

MORE NEWS . . .

Second vice president, Peggy Robbins, did a great job getting out the Projects Bulletin. I hope you are all using this wonderful tool.

All the executive board officers are working hard—doing official visits throughout the state and keeping up with the requirements of their own jobs.

Your board is dedicated this year to streamlining state and local chapter procedures. It may seem like a slow process but it is a "work in progress." If chapters or members have suggestions and/or questions, they are always welcomed.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE IN ACTION

Each chapter, committee and reciprocity, as well as the 2000 Convention Planning Board, has recently received an information packet from Marcia Finley, P.P.C.S.C., Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Please read it carefully and get your nomination for a candidate for the state executive board in on time. This is a wonderful new tool for California. It will now be possible for interested members to apply any year and not have to wait until their chapter is a convention hostess chapter — which is not always the right time in the interested member's life. Take advantage of this new opportunity to let your light shine!



Keep our P.E.O. Torch burning brightly that the path to the future may be clearly illuminated for all women to see our P.E.O. love and commitment.



Please place this newsletter in your President's Supplement. It may be copied.

CALIFORNIA STATE CHAPTER

First Vice President
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Second Vice President
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PLEASE READ IN CHAPTER MEETING AND PLACE IN PRESIDENT'S SUPPLEMENT

October 1, 1998

Dear Sisters,

Greetings from the very busy and mobile executive board of California State Chapter. Our schedules, both P.E.O. and personal, keep us all traveling around the state, country and globe. Our commitment to you and to P.E.O. keeps us involved throughout the year with various P.E.O. activities. I would like to share some of the activities and other happenings with you.

Brenda Atchison, organizer, and I enjoyed traveling together and attending the annual Conference for Presidents and Organizers held at the Executive Office in Des Moines this past July. We also had the opportunity to tour the Iowa Wesleyan campus in Mt. Pleasant, the birthplace of P.E.O. The conference is a wonderful opportunity to focus on the purpose of P.E.O., meet and interact with the other state organizers and presidents and discuss the future of our Sisterhood.

Speaking of the future, the P.E.O. Sisterhood is moving in that direction by leaps and bounds by creating computerized membership and financial programs for state chapters and, most exciting of all, creating an *Official Web Site for the P.E.O. Sisterhood*! Our Web site address is <http://www.peointernational.org>. The basic Web site is accessible to anyone and offers general information about our Sisterhood. However, there is a special section for P.E.O. members entitled "For Members Only." To enter this section of the Web site a special username and password are necessary. The username is *sisterhood* (typed exactly as it is here), and it is printed right in the instructions on line. The Web page password is private and is to be known to P.E.O. members only. It is *seven* (typed exactly as it is here). PLEASE DO NOT SHARE THE WEB PAGE PASSWORD WITH ANYONE WHO IS NOT A P.E.O. MEMBER so that our site stays secure. Happy surfing!

In August, Beverly Anderson, second vice president, and Peggy Robbins, corresponding secretary, joined Carolyn Reimiller, chairman, and Adrian Schueneman, member, Cottey College Committee, to attend the biennial Cottey College Seminar held on campus in Nevada, Missouri. They all came home with a real commitment to encourage chapters and reciprocities to promote Cottey and to work on finding young women who would enjoy and benefit from attending our wonderful college. With a theme like *Share the Vision*, how could you not? Now we want *you* to *Share the Vision* of Cottey College with others. Cottey's goal for California is: 48 applications, 38 prospective students visiting the campus and deposits from 28 students. Let's all work to reach this goal for our college.

Brenda, our organizer, has been busy working on ways to assist our chapters with their membership problems. To facilitate this happening, she and Charlene Chamberlin, first vice president, will conduct Membership Workshops for two reciprocities this year - one in the south and one in the north.

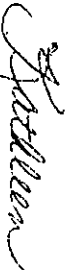
The Convention Ad Hoc Committee has been busy since convention and is preparing an updated report which will be reviewed by the executive board at our October board meeting. The committee has an immediate need, which Barbara Andes, chairman, shared with me. They would like volunteer assistance from a P.E.O. or B.I.L. attorney to review hotel contracts. If you or your B.I.L. would be interested in helping out, please give Barbara a call. Her phone number is (714) 879-8249.

It is with regret and wishes for God's healing that I inform you of the resignation of Annabelle B. Bush, P.P.C.S.C., as chairman of the Amendments and Recommendations Committee. Annabelle suffered a slight stroke this summer and her doctor has asked that she cut back on her activities. Rowena M. Henry, P.P.C.S.C., graciously consented to take over as chairman. To fill the vacancy created on the committee, Ruth A. Wolfe, P.P.C.S.C., has accepted a one year appointment. Any proposed amendments to the bylaws of California State Chapter or requests regarding the P.E.O. Constitution should be sent to Rowena. Her address is listed in the 1998 convention proceedings.

The theme this year is "P.E.O. - Angels Sharing Hope and Love." My hope is that you will find ways to share this theme with others throughout the year and into the future. Give the gift of P.E.O. to someone. Encourage a nonresident or nonparticipating member to dinit to a chapter near her or to one that meets at a more convenient time. Find scholarship recipients and promote our projects. Offer a helping hand through our Loving Concern Fund. Take a sister to lunch. Encourage a woman to attend Cotey. There are so many ways we can share hope and love, if only we will dare to reach out and find them.

God bless you all.

Lovingly in P.E.O.,



Kathleen M. Spears
President
California State Chapter

CALIFORNIA STATE CHAPTER



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October 22, 1997

My Dear P.E.O. Sisters:

Not only does fall bring beautiful color and crisp days, but also the fall schedules begin. It is certainly a pleasure for me to report to you on the activities of your state officers and to share our plans for the year. Each of us is truly committed, as are you, to making P.E.O. in California a loving, fulfilling experience for each member.

Charlene Chamberlin, organizer, and I had the pleasure of attending the annual conferences for state and provincial presidents and organizers. This was a time our focus was directed toward planning for the future, formulating goals for the year and adding the flavor of a dream.

This year, our theme is "P.E.O., The Power of a Dream." My hope is for a subtle power that allows us to grow in commitment to P.E.O., to strengthen our bonds of Sisterhood and to achieve the quiet power that will bring to each chapter not only a year of love and joy, but one that is special, unique and beautiful.

Your executive board is committed to helping all 595 chapters in California become stronger and to grow. This fall official visits are being made by board members to 157 local chapters. We continue to instruct chapter officers in P.E.O. procedures at Spring Workshops. Although these workshops are conducted for one-half of the reciprocities, those chapters not scheduled for a workshop in 1998 may attend a workshop in a neighboring reciprocity bureau.

In September, I had the honor and privilege of leading the California delegation to Seattle for the Convention of International Chapter. California was represented by eighty-five local chapter delegates, your state president and organizer, ten past presidents and many visitors. Our delegates were conscientious and took their responsibilities seriously, but also found time for "meeting," "greeting," and "fun." As your chapter delegate reports to you, please give special attention to the action taken on amendments which affect your local chapter. The organizer will be given instructions and materials for the implementation of any changes. Please do not make changes in our procedure until you receive instruction from her.

How very proud we are of our Past Presidents, Mary Louise Remy, Barbara Andes, Marcia Finley, each a Trustee for an International Chapter Board of Trustees. Our pride knew no bounds as Donna Ziel, P.P.C.S.C., conducted a Membership Seminar.

"Climb up a step in your P.E.O. activities - reach out!" - "Climb up a step in support of International projects!" are the challenges of Wilma L. Turner, President, International Chapter, for this biennium. Charlene Chamberlin will preside at the organization of at least three chapters this year. We welcomed Chapter XE on October 4, 1997.

First vice president, Kathleen Spears, has written to each of our reciprocity bureaus and nine P.E.O. Groups. She also guides the work of the Membership Committee. On November 1, 1997, Kathleen will organize the Mother Lode Reciprocity Bureau in Sonora.

Brenda Atchison, second vice president, has prepared and mailed a bulletin to each chapter which explains our various P.E.O. projects. Please use this resource in chapter meetings. California P.E.O.'s can be justifiably proud of the success of our projects. The generosity of our Sisters makes this success possible.

It has been a privilege for your state president to have the opportunity to attend meetings of the California P.E.O. Home Board of Trustees. The remodeling of Carver Hall will be started after the first of the year. The president of the Home Board of Trustees, Mario Cuddy, P.P.C.S.C., will report to you in January on activities at both units.

In July we welcomed Christine Hiller as our administrative assistant. What an exciting time that was! We moved into our new office, located in Alhambra, in July.

I am looking forward to sharing the celebration of Founders' Day with many of you, beginning in January. By February 15, 1998, I will have received your president's letter telling me of your chapter's activities and growth, the realization of your goals and dreams.

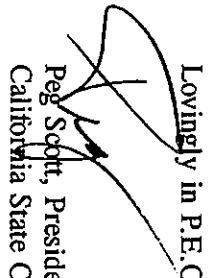
The 95th Annual Convention of California State Chapter will be held in Anaheim on May 15, 16, and 17, 1998. It is with pleasure, on behalf of the executive board and the hostess chapters, that I invite you to attend, to celebrate and explore "P.E.O., The Power of a Dream."

In closing, I would share the following with you.

*The power of a dream
The faith in things unseen
The courage to embrace your fear
No matter where you are
To reach for your own star
Is to realize the power of a dream.*

— Anonymous

Lovingly in P.E.O.,


Peg Scott, President
California State Chapter

PLEASE READ IN CHAPTER MEETING AND PLACE IN SUPPLEMENT TO PRESIDENT'S BOX

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Treasurer
BEVERLY A. ANDERSON
5128 Palisade Circle
Riverside, California 92506

October 30, 1996

Dear P.E.O. Sisters,

As we enter the season of Thanksgiving and holidays, it is a pleasure to bring you greetings from the executive board and to share the board's activities and plans.

In July the organizer, Kathleen Spears, and I had the privilege of attending the annual conference for Presidents and Organizers in Des Moines. As we met with Mabel Otis, President, International Chapter, and the executive board of International Chapter, Kathleen and I had a chance to share Mabel Otis' vision to "Dream and Grow in P.E.O." Our state executive board has accepted her challenge. We are committed to the continuing growth of P.E.O., while preserving its values and ideals, and while working to meet the needs of today's women.

My dream is that each local chapter accept Mabel Otis' challenge, as well. Set your chapter goals, focus on your successes, and move forward with your dreams for your chapter. Dare to "Dream and Grow in P.E.O."

In order to be more available to all 594 chapters in California, the executive board will be visiting chapters every four years. This fall we will be visiting 157 chapters. Workshops for chapter officers will still be held for one-half of the reciprocities in March and April. Be assured, however, that chapters not scheduled for workshops in 1997 may attend a workshop in a neighboring reciprocity. Our new scheduling gives each chapter the opportunity to meet three of every four years with a state officer for questions and help. In addition to these visits, the state officers are always available for information and questions.

Questions about state convention continue to reach the executive board. To give all chapters a chance to share their *expectations of convention* with us, I have enclosed a convention questionnaire. As you respond to the questionnaire, remember that an annual convention and specified agenda items are required by the Constitution. Please give careful thought as to what is really important to your delegates and chapter. Return the questionnaire to me by December 1, 1996. The answers will be tallied and given to the state officers and planning boards that are now meeting to plan conventions 1997 - 2002. The results will also be sent to chapters in the spring.

Happily, I can report P.E.O. in California is growing. Kathleen Spears will be presiding at the organization of two new chapters, XC and XD and the merger of Chapter N with the Redlands Proposed Chapter. Peg Scott, first vice president, will be guiding the work of our newly formed Membership Committee as they begin their first year of expanded membership responsibilities.

Projects continue to be an important outreach for P.E.O. Thank you for your generous support of both the state and International projects. Charlene Chamberlin, second vice president, has prepared and mailed to you an informative Projects Bulletin and Summary Sheet of P.E.O. Educational Grants, Scholarships, and Loans Available in California. The bulletin may be used by your projects chairman for her reports to chapter.

As president, I am privileged to attend the meetings of the California P.E.O. Home Board of Trustees. News of the activities of the Alhambra and San Jose units of the Home will be given by Gretchen Howell, President, Home Board of Trustees in her January letter.

It is with regret that the executive board accepted three resignations this fall. Jane Mullen, P.P.C.S.C., was unable to continue on the Ethel O. Gardner P.E.O. Scholarship Fund Committee because of personal time restraints; Barbara Hehmyer, Chairman of the Membership Committee was unable to continue because of increased business responsibilities; and Lynn Moussa, Home Board of Trustees member, was unable to continue because of increased family and business responsibilities. We thank them for their devotion and service to P.E.O. We know it was a difficult decision for each of them.

New appointees for the positions are:

Ethel O. Gardner P.E.O. Scholarship Fund Committee: Joyce E. Rhodes, P.P.C.S.C.,

1536 Peregrino Way, San Jose, 95125 (408) 723-7884

Membership Committee: Connie Kinsel, EH

19694 Road 232, Strathmore, 93268 (209) 568-1681

Home Board of Trustees: Barbara Shell, CX

952 Tournament Dr., Hillsborough 94010 (415) 574-1208

The former second year member of the Membership Committee will serve as chairman of the committee.

Membership Committee Chairman: Celia Seibert, TQ

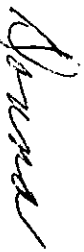
2360 Deer Valley Lane, Walnut Creek 94598 (510) 930-7463

Charlene Chamberlin, second vice president, has moved. Please note her new address on the letterhead and on the corrected officer address sheet enclosed with this letter. Also note Louise Sutton's corrected telephone number.

January and the new year will find many of you celebrating Founders' Day. What a special day it will be for me to greet many of you then. I also look forward to receiving your president's letter by February 15. Write to me about your chapter's dreams and goals, your activities and your growth. Share the spirit of your chapter!

The 94th annual convention of California State Chapter will be held in San Jose on May 31, June 1 and 2, 1997. On behalf of the hostess chapters and the executive board, I invite you to attend and celebrate "P.E.O. - A Gift in the Circle of Life."

Lovingly in P.E.O.,



Donna B. Ziel, President
California State Chapter

PLEASE READ IN CHAPTER MEETING AND PLACE IN SUPPLEMENT TO PRESIDENT'S BOOK

CALIFORNIA STATE CHAPTER

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October 30, 1995

Dear P.E.O. Sisters,

As our fall schedules begin, it is a pleasure for me to bring greetings to you from the executive board, to report on the activities of your state officers and to share our plans for the year. Each of us is committed, as I know you are, to making P.E.O. in California a loving and growing experience.

In July I had the pleasure of attending the annual conference for Presidents and Organizers in Des Moines with Peg Scott, organizer. We were reminded that the heart of P.E.O. is the local chapter and that our Sisterhood can only be as strong as each of our local chapters. I have three wishes for your chapter this year...I wish that your chapter will grow in membership, in commitment to P.E.O., and in the bonds of Sisterhood.

Are you initiating at least one new member each year and guiding her into an understanding of the unique spirit of P.E.O.? Are you reaching the younger members of your community, giving them the challenge, the love and the inspiration of our Sisterhood? Are you making a sincere effort to introduce your nonresident members to chapters in their new communities? Are you extending hospitality to an unaffiliated P.E.O. so that once again she can participate in chapter life? By answering "yes" to these questions, your chapter will grow and my three wishes will come true!

Your executive board is committed to helping all 593 chapters in California become stronger. This fall official visits are being made by board members to 137 local chapters. We continue to instruct chapter officers in P.E.O. procedures at Spring Workshops. These workshops will continue to be conducted annually with one-half of the reciprocities participating each year. Chapters not scheduled for a workshop in 1996 may attend a workshop in a neighboring reciprocity bureau. In addition, a new four-year Official Visit Schedule has been adopted by the executive board and is sent with this letter. This schedule will increase the number of visits made by each board member, but we feel that our chapters will benefit from more frequent visits by state officers. We hope that you will all agree!

As you know, convention of International Chapter was held in Denver in late September. California was represented by eighty-five local chapter delegates, your state president and organizer, eight past presidents and many visitors. We had a conscientious delegation who took seriously the responsibility of properly representing you. As your chapter delegate reports to you, you are requested to give special attention to amendments which affect your local chapter. You will learn that the method of balloting upon a name has been changed to a written ballot. However, the new method is not to be implemented until instructions are received from the organizer.

"Dream and Grow in P.E.O." is the challenge of Mabel Otis, President, International Chapter, for this biennium; and California is working to meet her challenge. Peg Scott will preside at the organization of at least two chapters this year. Her schedule includes corresponding with five prospective chapters, preparing membership workshops and answering questions pertaining to P.E.O. policy and procedure. First vice president, Donna Ziel, has written to each of our fifty reciprocity bureaus and nine P.E.O. Groups, and guides the work of the Unaffiliate Committee.

Thank you for your generous support of state and International projects. Kathleen Spears, second vice president, has prepared an informative bulletin for your projects chairman's use as she reports at each meeting.

Throughout the year your state president is privileged to attend meetings of the California P.E.O. Home Board of Trustees. On July 29, the executive board attended the dedication of Robbins Hall at the Alhambra Unit. The president of the Home Board will report to you in January on activities at both units.

Unaffiliate committee member, Maggie Wellman, has moved to Omaha, Nebraska, proving that a P.E.O. never knows for certain when she will need help locating a new chapter! We wish Maggie and her family the very best in their new home. Celia Seibert, Chapter TQ, has accepted an appointment to the Unaffiliate Committee and will work with reciprocity and unaffiliates in northern California. Please make note of Celia's address and phone number: 2360 Deer Valley Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94598, (510) 930-7463.

Our administrative assistant, Joan Burgess, is also planning a move in November! Joan and her husband have purchased a home in Paso Robles. A postcard will be sent to each chapter after November 16 with her new address. Please make sure that your corresponding secretary and treasurer receive this information. Meanwhile, the executive board continues to pursue the goal of establishing an administrative office outside a private residence.

I am looking forward to greeting many of you at reciprocity Founders' Day observances beginning in January and to receiving you president's letter by February 15. Please tell me about your chapter's activities and growth, your strengths and achievements, the very spirit of your chapter.

The 93rd annual convention of California State Chapter will be held in Palm Desert on May 28, 29 and 30, 1996. On behalf of the executive board and hostess chapters, I invite you to attend and celebrate "The Wonderful Lamp of P.E.O."

Mother Theresa said, "To keep a lamp burning we have to keep putting oil in it." Let us rekindle the flame of our lamp by daily devotion to our Objects and Aims, and others will be warmed by its glow. May your year bring many rewards.

Lovingly in P.E.O.,



Marcia B. Finley
President
California State Chapter

PLEASE READ IN CHAPTER MEETING AND PLACE IN SUPPLEMENT TO PRESIDENT'S BOOK

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CALIFORNIA STATE CHAPTER

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October 1994

Dear Sisters,

It is my privilege to greet you on behalf of California State Chapter.

This is an exciting time for the state chapter and our Sisterhood. The Organizer, Donna Ziel, and I attended the Presidents' and Organizers' Conference in Des Moines, Iowa, in July. This was a time to network, helping your state officers focus on plans and goals for this year and the future of P.E.O. in California.

Second Vice President, Peg Scott, and Recording Secretary, Kathleen Spears, along with three members of California's Cottey Scholarship Committee and Cottey Committee attended a seminar at Cottey this summer. Mary Louise Renny, P.P.I.C., P.P.C.S.C., Trustee, Cottey College, also attended. California was well represented. Our students, present and future, will gain tremendously from having these officers and members attend this seminar.

The state officers are honored to be serving P.E.O. It is a full-time job and responsibility. Each officer willingly gives of her time, but we need additional help. As state officers, we continue to do most of our own clerical work. We feel that our time would be better spent working directly with individual P.E.O.s, chapters, reciprocities, and for our projects.

Planning for the future of P.E.O. in California, the state board has begun to actively pursue the idea of having a business office. The reasons for this are many, with the greatest being the need to increase productivity of our present office. The ultimate responsibilities and workload are greater than can be handled in a home. We have recently hired Judy Cory, TX, as additional staff to help our administrative assistant. The hope is that with additional staff, the officers can be relieved of clerical work. This is not a new idea. Quoting from the October 1974 California State Chapter board minutes: "With the increasing workload for each officer, the need for a central office is apparent for the not too distant future." A possible location needs to be accessed by a major airport. P.E.O. real estate contacts would be helpful. I welcome your suggestions.

Communication in the state, and within our Sisterhood, is very important. Peg Scott has prepared and mailed the Projects Bulletin and the 1994 Proceedings. I plan to prepare three issues of the President's Page this year. You should have received the first copy several weeks ago. This president's letter, and all additional information received throughout the year is prepared to keep you informed. Please share this information with your chapter.

(1994 C.S.C. President's Letter, p. 2)

I am happy to report news regarding our California P.E.O. Home. Sheila Ilen has been hired as the new administrator of the Alhambra Unit. She began her duties October 1, 1994. We miss Mary Adarel Dow and Mae Porteus and send our wishes for happy, fulfilling retirement years. As administrator and assistant administrator, their many years of service are very much appreciated. Robbins Hall will be ready for occupancy in early 1995. Additional funds are needed.

Donations to the "125th Anniversary Challenge" have been received from many chapters and individuals. Thank you! There is still time to respond to the challenge of having 100% of California chapters participate. Make your check payable to the P.E.O. Foundation for \$125, and mail to Joan Burgess, Administrative Assistant, C.S.C. Gifts will be divided equally among the five International projects. Hurry, your check must be dated by December 31, 1994. All chapters that have donated to this fund will receive additional recognition at state convention.

Donna Ziel has organized two chapters since convention: WU, Brawley and WV, Cameron Park. At least three more organizations are scheduled. Congratulations and welcome new chapters.

I have enclosed an all chapter survey, "What Works for You?" Please send your responses to the organizer by January 10, 1995. Thank you.

The executive board and the hostess chapters of the 1995 convention of California State Chapter are looking forward to seeing you at the Town & Country Hotel, San Diego, June 2, 3, and 4. The theme "P.E.O. Magic - Creating a Glorious Symphony" is developing nicely. This year, the planning board has decided to provide tote bags for all delegates. The pre-convention luncheon and program will honor new initiates. The luncheon on Saturday, June 3rd will honor our 50 year and over members. Come to convention, experience the magic, and participate in the glorious symphony of P.E.O.

I send my love to each of you and look forward to personally greeting many of you during the year at chapter visits, Founders' Day programs, and at the state convention. May your commitment to P.E.O. and appreciation for your sisters and our Sisterhood grow stronger every day. God bless you all.

Lovingly in P.E.O.,



Joyce E. Rhodes
President
California State Chapter

enc: Chapter Survey "What Works for You?"

PLEASE READ IN CHAPTER MEETING AND PLACE IN SUPPLEMENT TO PRESIDENTS BOOK

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October 25, 1993

Dear P.E.O. Sisters,

It is my pleasure to bring greetings to you from your executive board and to inform you on the state of the P.E.O. Sisterhood in California. At the close of convention in May, each chapter president was challenged to set goals for your year ahead. Your executive board has been in that process as well. In addition to the goal of better time management, which we could all use, we have assessed and discussed the membership growth and goals of P.E.O. in California.

During the last two years, the total active membership in California has decreased. Although the number is not large, it does reflect some changes that have occurred within our chapters. Most noticeable is the increase in our members who have chosen to become inactive. In addition, fewer unaffiliates have dimitted into chapters. There are, undoubtedly, a variety of reasons for the marked changes in these two areas.

Steady and wise growth for our California P.E.O. chapters is at the top of the list of goals set by your executive board. New members are important to the continued vitality of each of our chapters. Most of these new members come to us by dimit or initiation. With new membership comes the greatest of responsibilities for your chapter. Pre-acceptance and post-initiation counseling are vital. Each new member, whether by initiation or dimit, must be welcomed into the inner life of each chapter. To become a part of your chapter life, to understand the commitment, responsibilities, traditions and experience unconditional love are all part of that first year as a new member. We must make our chapters a warm and welcome place.

Younger members are still an important consideration for our chapters as we provide for the future of this special sisterhood...daughters, granddaughters, nieces, friends, professional women and full-time employed. P.E.O. has so much to offer the busiest of women. The nurturing and fellowship that is part of being sisters is a need of every woman, no matter her age or status in this fast-paced world. Seek out those women with values and ideals we uphold. Become their friend and introduce them to your chapter sisters. Extend the invitation to membership and then set about the task of good counseling. Allow each one to make the choice as to whether or not P.E.O. has a place in her life. To facilitate this process we would recommend that each chapter have a membership committee.

We are also very interested in the success stories of our chapters. If your chapter has grown in special ways this year, we would like to know about it. How have you exemplified the objects and aims in a way that has resulted in growth? How have you nurtured and cared for the newest members of your chapter? Do you have professional women and full-timed employed members of your chapter who still make time for P.E.O.? Let us hear about them, too!

If your chapter is struggling with an ever decreasing membership, what can you do? (We always encourage you to call the organizer for assistance!) What I would like to suggest is for each chapter member to read the July-August P.E.O. RECORD article, "Revitalizing a Chapter." The secret of success for that chapter was found in the Objects and Aims. We must be committed to each other and to the beliefs of the organization! Because of that commitment, each member gave of her time and talent as she was able. By sharing tasks, and each doing a part, the whole becomes more complete.

Enclosed you will find a request for chapter success stories and information regarding chapter sisters who have demonstrated outstanding service to your P.E.O. chapter and/or community. In addition, I will be looking forward to hearing from each chapter president in February. Tell me about your chapter goals and how you were able to attain them. Share your successes as well as your concerns.

Your executive board continues to work toward developing a closer connection with each of our chapters. This fall, 135 local chapters are being visited. In January and February, there will be nineteen Founders' Day observances attended by the president, accompanied by one or more board members. Spring workshops for officers and finally convention in May provide additional opportunities to be in touch with all of you. And, I hope you have been reading the "President's Page" which has been sent to each chapter president. The information is to be shared with your chapter sisters. It has important items of interest for all.

May your love and commitment to P.E.O. and your chapter sisters be strengthened and nurtured. This is a most precious gift that we have been given by our seven founders. And, as you provide for the future may you look to our "star" for guidance and inspiration. "Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Lovingly in P.E.O.,



Rowena M. Henry, President
California State Chapter

"Can we lift our eyes at the end of the year and say with beating heart? 'Dear Lord, it has been a perfect year, because I've done my part.'"

PLEASE READ IN CHAPTER MEETING AND PLACE IN SUPPLEMENT TO PRESIDENT'S BOOK

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October 15, 1992

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My Dear Sisters,

It is truly a pleasure to greet each one of you as we enter into our fall schedules with renewed dedication and enthusiasm. This letter provides me with the opportunity to bring you up to date on California State Chapter activities, and to let you know about future events.

Your state officers have been far from idle since convention last May. Joyce Rhodes, Organizer, and I enjoyed sharing ideas and information with the presidents and organizers throughout the United States and Canada at the P.&O. Conference in Des Moines in July. A highlight of this trip was the opportunity to meet in, and tour, our P.E.O. Executive Office. What an efficient and beautiful headquarters we have! An additional bonus was a trip to Mt. Pleasant and Iowa Wesleyan College where P.E.O. had its beginnings.

Joyce has already organized two new chapters, WO, San Luis Obispo, and WP, San Diego. At least two more organizations are scheduled. At this rate we will soon be through the "W's"! Joyce has also assisted with the merger of a chapter with the Paso Robles unaffiliate group. Through this process, which is unique to California, a chapter's letters and history are preserved.

First Vice President, Rowena Henry, has reorganized the process of finding new homes for our unaffiliate members throughout the state. Chapters will soon be hearing the details of this new program through their reciprocity unaffiliate chairmen. It is very important that each chapter follow up carefully on all unaffiliate contacts. We want these sisters to know there is a chapter eagerly waiting for them!

Growth for all chapters continues to be a top priority. Your chapter can grow, through initiation, by dimit, and by the reinstatement of inactive members. Try to grow by no less than one member each year. And remember - in order to know whether or not your chapter has truly grown, you must figure the losses as well as the gains.

Marcia Finley, Second Vice President, and Donna Ziel, Recording Secretary, traveled to Nevada, Missouri this summer for a seminar at Cottey Jr. College. Accompanying them were two members of the California Cottey Junior College Committee. They all grew in appreciation for this very special P.E.O. project.

There is lots of excitement at the two units of our California P.E.O. Home! You will be hearing much more about it from Yvonne Cottrell, President of the Home Board, but I want to whet your appetite just a little bit. Thanks to the

generosity of an anonymous donor, October 19th will be the ground-breaking for a new guest/exercise complex, complete with enclosed pool and jacuzzi, at the San Jose Unit. A little further down the road there are building plans for the Alhambra Unit as well. And incidentally, if you visit the Alhambra Unit, be sure to drop in to see the new History Room. Lucille Hewitt, State Historian, will be happy to give you a tour. There are still cabinets, furnishings and displays to be completed, but you are welcome to browse. (You are also welcome to send contributions to the Home, designated either for the building program or for the History Room, to hasten completion of these projects.) To be displayed in a place of honor in the History Room will be our California State Chapter Charter, dated February 19, 1904, which has been newly "museum framed".

Soon you will hear the date and place of your reciprocity Founders' Day celebration. Do plan to attend. Several reciprocities, which are in fairly close proximity to one another, are joining together for their celebrations. This allows the state officers to participate in more of the Founders' Day programs, and provides opportunities for a greater outreach of sisterly love.

Dates to be sure you put on your 1993 calendar are May 14-17. Convention, C.S.C., will be the 15th-17th at the Newport Beach Marriott Hotel. A tea and tour of our beautiful California P.E.O. Home, Alhambra Unit, will be held Friday, May 14th at 2:00 p.m. There will also be a get-acquainted reception that evening. I encourage all chapters to consider sending their delegates the day ahead of the opening of convention so that they may take advantage of these special activities. On Saturday, the 15th, the Opening Luncheon will be in honor of all new P.E.O.s initiated during the year 1992-1993, or your newest initiates whenever they were initiated. Please plan to bring them to the luncheon and encourage them to attend the opening meeting. Attendance at convention will do more than anything else to demonstrate the scope of P.E.O.

Other dates you will want to make note of are September 17-19, 1993 for the Convention of International Chapter which will be held in Atlanta, Georgia. Further information will be forthcoming early in 1993.

I am sorry to report that, due to ill-health, Eva Lindquist, P.P.C.S.C., has found it necessary to resign as a member of the Cottey Junior College Scholarship Committee. I want to express my deepest gratitude, and that of the Executive Board, C.S.C., for the work she has done. We look forward to the time when Eva is again in good health, and able to share her wonderful talents for the benefit of P.E.O. in California. Graciously accepting the appointment to replace Eva on The Cottey Junior College Scholarship Committee will be Marjorie K. Pickett, P.P.C.S.C. With her considerable experience in this area, Margie will be a valuable addition to the committee.

This is an opportunity to pass along a few tips which will simplify all our lives:

1. All chapter checks are made payable to: California State Chapter.
2. All checks are to be sent to Joan Burgess, Administrative Assistant.
(The only exception to the above is dues to reciprocity bureaus.)
3. Annual Report Packets will be sent to the chapter president. Following completion by the corresponding secretary and treasurer, reports will be given to the president for her approval and her signature. The president will then return both reports in ONE envelope before March 10.

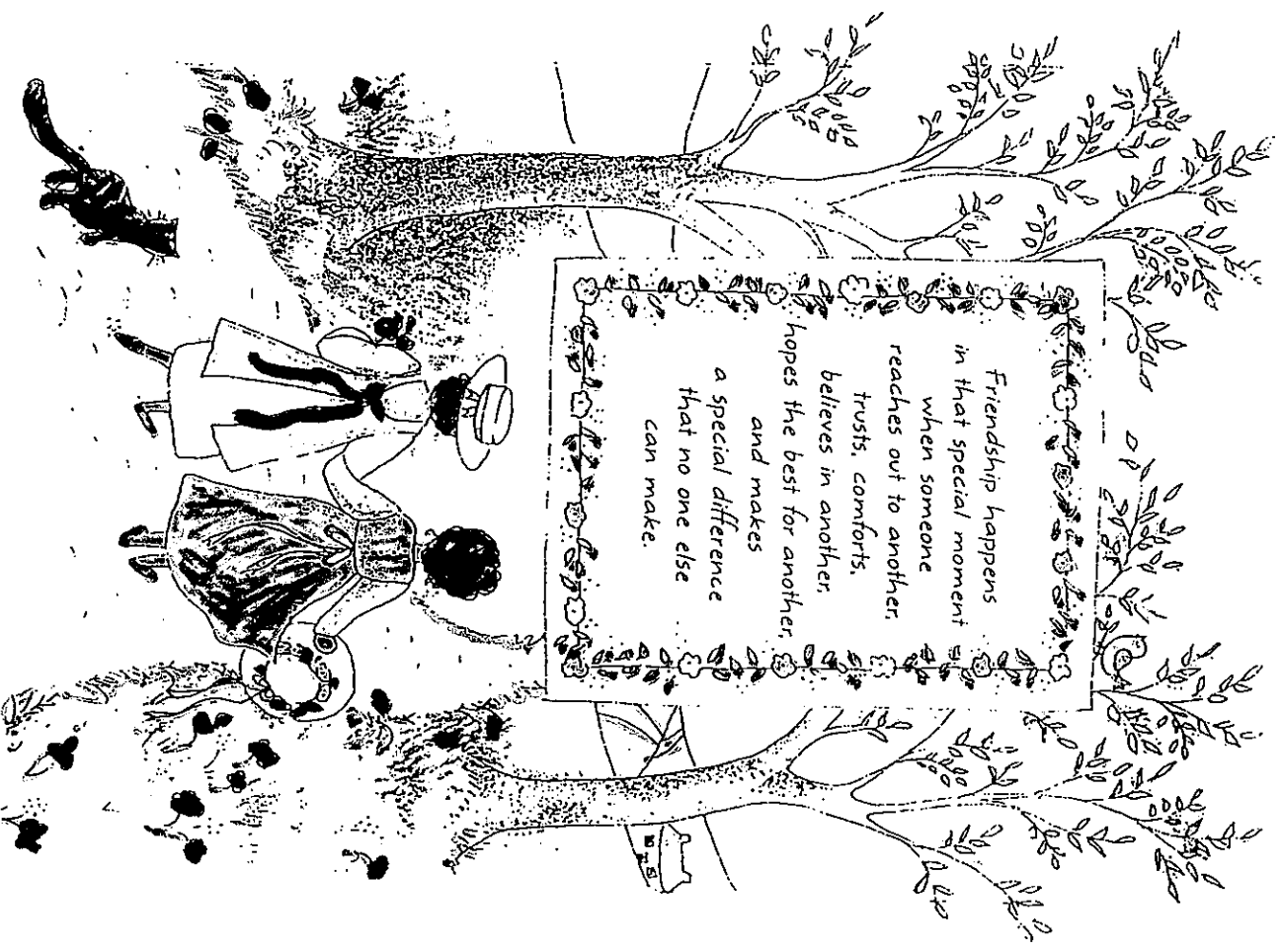
Enclosed in this letter is the new P.E.O. Scholar Awards brochure. Please share it with your chapter members, and be sure to note the December 31st deadline for submission of chapter nominations. The brochure may then be given to your projects chairman to be added to her supplies for future reference.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to serve as your president! Please keep me informed of your problems and your successes. I look forward to a year of continued growth and excitement as P.E.O. strives to meet the needs of all women. May God bless our Sisterhood and each one of you!

With much love,

Evelyn

Evelyn P. Nelson
President
California State Chapter



PLEASE READ IN CHAPTER MEETING AND PLACE IN SUPPLEMENT TO PRESIDENT'S BOOK

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October 28, 1991

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My Dear Sisters:

My fall letter gives me the opportunity to share with all of you the activities of your executive board. This is a busy time of the year for all of us as 130 chapters will be officially visited. Visits are always a favorite time for the board as it gives us the opportunity to share in your achievements and help with your concerns.

Working with the chapters to build a stronger membership has been a top priority for the executive board. A chapter may cultivate prospective members by asking them to chapter socials, card parties or luncheons. One chapter, I visited recently, has a 'Friendship Tea' each year asking prospective members, unaffiliates and P.E.O.s from other chapters in the area. What a wonderful way to strengthen our ties.

Growth is vital to each chapter and can be achieved three ways, by initiation, dimit or reinstatement. As you grow, take time to assimilate your new sisters into your chapter. It is important they understand the commitments and responsibilities that go along with becoming a P.E.O. Counseling is important for both the new initiate and the dimitting member.

Rowena Henry, organizer, will preside at the organization of four new chapters this year. Her busy schedule includes corresponding with the twelve unaffiliate groups working towards organization, preparing membership workshops and answering questions pertaining to P.E.O. policy and procedure. Two existing chapters will have a change of charter city location becoming part of a group preparing to organize. Due to the distance involved, we call this process a "merger". Through a merger, we are able to save the history of some of our old and valuable chapters and to keep their chapter letters as part of California's legacy.

Our first vice president, Evelyn Nelson is working with our 48 reciprocity bureaus and our 12 P.E.O. Groups. This year, the first vice president serves as the liaison between the executive board and the planning boards preparing for future conventions. The Unaffiliate Committee, under Evelyn's supervision, has worked hard to pare down the Unaffiliate List. This past year 470 women dimitted into California Chapters. Isn't that great? Let's find a home for our 'homeless' unaffiliates this year.

Joyce Rhodes, second vice president, has just completed the Projects Bulletin. We hope your projects chairman uses it throughout the year to keep your chapter informed on our State and International Projects. Maybe your chapter can reach out and touch someone with the gift of love through a P.E.O. project. Contact the state committee member in your area for additional information.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to our Berkeley/Oakland sisters who suffered losses in the fire. As of this writing, we know of fourteen P.E.O.s who lost their homes. The love and concern expressed for these special sisters has been overwhelming. A special thanks to Jean McKibben and Dottie Feay of the East Bay Reciprocity for contacting the chapters for the executive board.

At Convention Of International Chapter in Omaha, the P.E.O. Scholar Awards was established as the fifth International project with Ila Lee Ehret, P.P.C.S.C. being named its first chairman. Enclosed you will find a P.E.O. Scholar Awards Information Sheet and Nomination Form. For further information regarding the P.E.O. Scholar Awards project, contact California's newly appointed state chairman, Sylvia Evans, JW, Vista. Sylvia's address is 2498 Majella Rd., Vista, CA 92084.

A revised 'Chapter Gifts to State and International Projects' sheet reflecting the newly established project is included with this letter. It would be very helpful to get your gifts for projects in early.

Nancy Ryan Hall, newly elected president of International Chapter announced the appointment of Barbara Andes, P.P.C.S.C, to the P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education committee for International. Congratulations!

Convention of International Chapter voted a \$3.00 increase of International dues. This increase brings the total amount of International dues to \$12.50 which shall include \$4.00 for Cottey Junior College. Since this was action taken by Convention of International Chapter, the local chapter does not have to vote on the increase.

If your dues were:

Local Chapter \$6.00, State \$9.50 and International \$9.50. Total \$25.00.

Now they would be:

Local Chapter \$6.00, State \$9.50 and International \$12.50. Total \$28.00.

At the close of convention in Omaha, California presented a monetary gift representing each active P.E.O. in California to Mary Louise Remy for the projects of her choice. It was also announced that California has established The Mary Louise Remy P.E.O. Scholar Awards Endowment Fund this was due to the wonderful generosity of California P.E.O.s. Over \$79,000.00 was given in her name the first year. The endowment fund will be a part of the P.E.O. Scholar Awards project. Gifts may be given to the fund in Mary Louise's honor or to the P.E.O. Scholar Awards in general.

A special thank you to the members of California State Chapter from Mary Louise:

"Thank you very much for the gracious and generous gifts you gave in my honor at Convention of International Chapter in Omaha.

I am thrilled that you established The Mary Louise Remy P.E.O. Scholar Awards Endowment Fund to give continuing life to our newly adopted P.E.O. project.

Your love and loyalty are deeply appreciated. Thanks again."

Lovingly in P.E.O., Mary Louise Remy, Past-President International Chapter

My love and best wishes to all of you for a wonderful P.E.O. year. I'm looking forward to hearing about your chapter in your President's letter.

Lovingly in P.E.O.,



Sharron R. Marsh, President
California State Chapter

PLEASE READ IN CHAPTER MEETING AND PLACE IN SUPPLEMENT TO PRESIDENT'S BOOK.

