



NEBRASKA NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2023



I CAN'T BELIEVE SEPTEMBER IS HERE! I HOPE YOU ARE AS READY AS I FOR SOME COOLER WEATHER. ALTHOUGH THAT SEEMS TO BE A FAMILIAR PHRASE EVERY AUGUST. I GUESS THAT IS WHY THEY ARE CALLED THE "DOG DAYS OF SUMMER". MOTIVATION SEEMS TO SLIP A LITTLE DURING THIS TIME. EXCEPT FOR US BUSY P.E.O.S! IT IS SO EXCITING TO SEE SO MANY EXCITING EVENTS THAT YOU HAVE BEEN DOING!! IT IS AWESOME HOW ENGAGED YOU ALL HAVE BEEN WITH P.E.O. ACTIVITIES. AND THERE TRULY IS SO MUCH MORE TO COME!!!




AS YOU KNOW MANY OF US OUR HEADED TO PITTSBURGH IN A FEW SHORT DAYS! ACTUALLY. WE WILL HAVE 60 WOMEN AND 3 BILS HEADED THERE. AND WE ARE SO EXCITED! I'D ALSO LIKE TO THANK MANY OF YOU THAT HAVE REACHED OUT TO ME AND TO OTHER DELEGATES CONCERNING AMENDMENTS. IT IS ALWAYS GOOD TO HEAR HOW YOU ARE FEELING. BOTH ON A PERSONAL LEVEL AND A CHAPTER LEVEL. PLEASE KNOW THAT ALL OF US TAKE OUR RESPONSIBILITY VERY SERIOUSLY.

MANY CHAPTERS ARE PREPARING FUN FALL ACTIVITIES. VISITATIONS. AND OF COURSE RECIPROCITY MEETINGS! RECIPROCITY MEETINGS ARE ALWAYS SO MUCH FUN AND I HIGHLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO GO TO YOURS! GRAB A SISTER AND ENJOY MEETING WITH OTHER P.E.O.S IN YOUR AREA! MAYBE YOU HAVE AN UNAFFILIATE IN YOUR AREA. THIS IS A GREAT TIME TO TAKE HER TO A MEETING TO MEET OTHER P.E.O.S IN YOUR AREA! IT IS A GREAT WAY TO SPARKLE AND SHINE WITH YOUR SISTERS!!

AS I CLOSE. I HOPE YOU ARE REMEMBERING TO "SCATTER LOVE. SPARKLE WITH GRACE. AND CHOOSE TO SHINE"! I'M HOPING YOU ARE FINDING MANY DIFFERENT WAYS TO DO THIS! EVERYONE LOVES A LITTLE SPARKLE IN THEIR LIFE! LIFT SOMEONE UP BY BEING THAT "SPARKLE". YOUR ATTITUDE CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE! REMEMBER. YOU NEVER KNOW HOW YOUR ACTIONS TODAY MAY CHANGE SOMEONE'S DAY OR HER TOMORROW!

HAPPY FALL!
LOVINGLY,
KELLIE

REMINDERS

-  SUBMISSION DATES FOR STAR SCHOLARSHIP AUG. 15-OCT. 15
-  SUBMISSION DATES FOR P.E.O. SCHOLAR AWARDS AUG. 20-NOV. 20
-  CHAPTER DONATIONS FOR PROJECTS DEC. 15, 2023



UPCOMING EVENTS

-  CIC- SEPT. 21-24
PITTSBURGH, PA
-  OFFICIAL VISITS-
NORTHEAST
GROUP
-  FALL
RECIPROCITY
MEETINGS



Changes to the Website!

We have all experienced the undesired side of technology-our email address being stolen, our Facebook account being hacked or other online accounts being compromised. Unfortunately, International Chapter has not been immune to such struggles, as we all recall when last year the International website was down for an extended period of time due to such an assault.

Because of this, in order to prevent this from happening again, a big change is in the works for all who use the P.E.O. websites, including our very own Nebraska state website! Rather than all of us using the same username and password to access all P.E.O. websites, we will all use our very own! If you do any type of online banking, purchasing, etc., you should already know what this is about. We will use the acronym "SSO" for this new authentication method-Single Sign On. We hope this new process of using unique credentials will help alleviate any further issues of account hacking and subsequent shutdowns of the websites.

In preparation of this upcoming change, ALL members need to do TWO things!

- **Make sure you know your Member ID number.**
- **Make sure your email address has been submitted on the International website.**

Both items will be necessary in order for you to use SSO to access the Nebraska website. At this point, this is for the Nebraska website only! Instructions for the International website will be forthcoming in the near future.

So that you know that you are set to go:

- Find your Member ID on the label of your P.E.O. Record. The second line of the label has your (chapter letters)||NE followed by your Member ID number **OR**
- To find your ID number and check on your email address:
 - Go to the Quick Links at the bottom of the home page on the International website and click on "**Member Update.**"
 - Select "Look up ID", fill out the short form and submit to retrieve your ID number.
 - Then "Use this ID" and "Continue" to take you to the Member Update page. There you will be able to verify your email address or submit it, if need be!
- If you know your Member ID, follow the instructions above by going to the Member Update page and submitting your number to verify or submit your email address.

Please take the time to check on these two items right away so that when the update is upon us, you will be set to go! We want this change to be as seamless as possible. We need all Nebraska P.E.O. members to join in this effort to achieve this goal!

Have questions or need assistance? Contact Leann at leanndrullinger@gmail.com

LEADERSHIP IN NEBRASKA:

The Nominating Committee is seeking sisters who would like to apply as the state secretary! Contact

Lisa Helmick,
lisapeo@cox.net for more information!

IMPORTANT!!

NEW CHAPTER DONATION FORMS ARE ON THE NEBRASKA WEBSITE IN THE LOCAL CHAPTER TOOLBOX. THE DISCOVER COTTEY FUND AND COTTEY SUITE ARE NOW ON THE FORM. CHECKS SHOULD BE POSTMARKED BY DEC. 15TH!



Program for Continuing Education By: Karen Olson, PCE Chair

olsonkaren@charter.net

The Program for Continuing education offers hope and a brighter tomorrow for women whose education has been interrupted and who find it necessary to return to school to support themselves and/or their families. Local chapters have an opportunity to earn the PCE Brighter Tomorrow designation as they continue to lift up women who are working to create better futures for themselves. Become a PCE Brighter Tomorrow Chapter!

- *A chapter that makes a lump sum contribution of \$500 or more will be designated a PCE Brighter Tomorrow Chapter.
- * To receive recognition, the CHAPTER contribution must be received by the state paid assistant by January 31. Make the check payable to Nebraska State Chapter P.E.O.
- * Individual contributions of \$500 or more also allow a local chapter to receive recognition as a PCE Brighter Tomorrow Chapter, provided the donor specifies the chapter to be credited on the Individual Donation Form. To be considered a charitable donation, this contribution must be made payable to Program for Continuing Education and be sent to the Executive Office. The deadline for these designated gifts is January 31.

Chapter Recognition:

- *Chapters designated as PCE Brighter Tomorrow Chapters will be recognized on the PCE portion of the International website.
- *They will also be recognized at the Nebraska state convention.

I would like to encourage each chapter to set some goals for project giving. Last year Nebraska had 15 Brighter Tomorrow Chapters and I would like to see that number increase.



"Funding Grants Today...For A Brighter Tomorrow"



P.E.O. EDUCATIONAL LOAN FUND (ELF)



As school is getting back in session for most, there are women out there looking for assistance in funding their education as they pursue their degree or professional training. And the good news is that the P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund (ELF) Board of Trustees has made getting a low interest loan one step easier for these women:

DID YOU HEAR? Effective July 1, 2023, ELF applicants will only need to identify ONE qualified cosigner for their loan! The change from two cosigners to a single cosigner will make it easier for eligible women to apply for and secure this 2% interest loan.

With this new eligibility change our qualifications for an interested woman to apply for and be considered are as follows:

- Recommendation by a local chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood with a favorable vote on the amount of the loan
 - Loans Amounts:
 - \$12,000 for Associates, Bachelors, Technical or Professional Training Programs and Post Graduate Certifications
 - \$15,000 for Master's Degrees
 - \$20,000 for Doctoral Degree Programs
- A citizen or legal permanent resident of the U.S. or Canada, resides in the U.S. or Canada
- Submits the application within 6–24 months prior to stated graduation or course completion.
- Is accepted in an accredited U.S. or Canadian postsecondary institution.
- Meets the minimum credit score of 625.
- Does not exceed the indebtedness limit for degree level.
- Has ONE qualified cosigner for the loan
- Demonstrates financial need.

Keep your eyes and ears open for deserving women looking for some financial assistance with their education, it just got a little easier!

Nebraska P.E.O. ELF Chair

Cristy Fryzek

cristy.fryzek@gmail.com



DO YOU KNOW THAT DRAGONFLIES
ARE FOUND ALL OVER THE WORLD
AND EACH ONE IS UNIQUE! JUST
LIKE OUR SISTERS!



NEW CHAPTERS—WOULD
YOU LIKE TO BE
INVOLVED IN STARTING
A NEW CHAPTER?
WHAT A REWARDING
EXPERIENCE! CONTACT
PEGGY BRENDEN
[@PEG6BPEO@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PEG6BPEO@GMAIL.COM)
FOR INFORMATION!



P.E.O. Scholar Awards

It is not too late to interview an outstanding woman who is within two years of completing her Ph.D. or doctoral-level professional degree!

*Chapter Letters of Recommendation must be submitted online to the International P.E.O. Scholar Awards Office on or before Nov. 20, 2023.

*The International P.E.O. Scholar Awards office will give recommended candidates 45 days to gather the necessary academic records and professorial letters of recommendation, and to complete the lengthy online application for the PSA.

*The 100 successful Scholar Award recipients will be notified in May 2024.

*This \$20,000 award is intended as partial support for the research and writing of the dissertation during the 2024–2025 academic year.

Identifying a potential scholar, interviewing her, and writing the 300-word letter of recommendation is a valuable experience for the P.E.O. chapter, and the lengthy, thought-provoking task of completing the application is excellent for the potential candidate! Even if your candidate does not receive this award, she will have gathered the documents, records, and thoughts so necessary for applying for other grants and scholarships, and she will be well-prepared for the arduous applications and interviews that she will be completing in the years to come.

Please “scatter love” by seeking P.E.O. Scholar Award candidates who will “sparkle” as they pursue their degrees and “shine” in their chosen disciplines. We all benefit from the life-long work of outstanding scholars who may well become our P.E.O. sisters, too!

Laura Marvel Wunderlich, HT
P.E.O. Scholar Awards state chair
719-207-3198

lm Marvel@hastings.edu



THREE-YEAR MENTORING PROGRAM OF A NEW MEMBER

Help your new sister, whether a new initiate or just new to your chapter, experience your chapter's special bond of friendship by mentoring her during the first three years of her membership. Mentors are special sisters who nurture a new member as she becomes a contributing part of the chapter. The president or membership committee may assign a mentor from one of the sisters who sponsored her or anyone else in the chapter.

Click on the link: [Counseling New Members](https://peointernational.org/Counseling-New-Members) | P.E.O. International Members Site
(peointernational.org)

STAR SCHOLARSHIP TIPS



As summer days begin to wane and we turn our thoughts to our fall routines, the P.E.O. STAR Scholarship Board of Trustees looks forward to a new biennium and the continued growth of the STAR Project. Thanks to the continued generosity of our sisters, both at the chapter level and as individuals, we are able to help so many young women "Reach for the Stars".

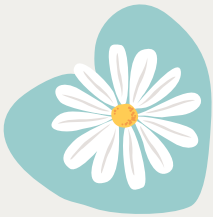
- Applications for the 2024-2025 P.E.O. STAR Scholarship opened on August 15th and closes on October 15th. Before submitting a recommendation, chapters are encouraged to review the STAR Procedures and General Information document found on the P.E.O. International member website at:
 - <https://members.peointernational.org/peo-projects/star-scholarship/chapter-resources-star>
- Once you've found your STAR, stay in touch as she works through the application process.
 - Offer to review her essay. Grammar and spelling are important.
 - Be sure she includes all the leadership, community service and extra-curricular activities that she brought to your attention in the interview.
 - A well written reference is important. Help her brainstorm a list of adults who know her well.
 - The application deadline is crucial. Follow up to ensure she meets her 30-day deadline to submit a completed application.

Thanks to the generosity of so many, STAR Trustees were able to award a record 129 Named and Endowed Scholarships for 2023-2024. You can read about these amazing young women on the International website.

<https://members.peointernational.org/peo-projects/star-scholarship/star-named-and-endowed-scholarships>

Crystal Klein, P.E.O. STAR Scholarship chair
crysklein@gmail.com

"THE BRIGHTEST STARS ARE THOSE WHO SHINE FOR THE BENEFIT OF OTHERS".



WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP SPREAD THE LOVE OF P.E.O.?

NEBRASKA SISTERS ARE SCHEDULING AN INTRODUCTION MEETING IN GRETNA, NEBRASKA TO BEGIN FORMING A NEW CHAPTER. THE INTRODUCTORY MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5TH AT 7:00 PM AT WATERSEDGE CHURCH, 19600 HARRISON STREET, GRETNA, NE 68028. INVITATION POSTCARDS HAVE BEEN SENT TO ALL ACTIVE P.E.O.S LIVING IN GRETNA.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT ABOUT THIS NEW CHAPTER, HELPING WITH THE ORGANIZATION AND/OR JOINING THIS NEW CHAPTER, WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

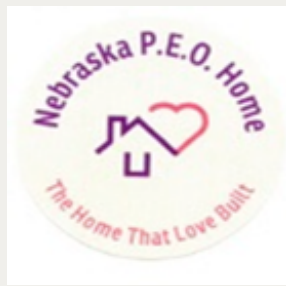
IF YOU CAN ATTEND OUR MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT:

PEGGY BRENDL

PEGBPEO@GMAIL.COM

402-672-2800

"IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING, BUT WISH TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PLANNING, PLEASE CONTACT PEGGY.



September 2023

Nebraska P.E.O. Home, 413 North 5 th Street, Beatrice, NE 68310-2902

Phone: 402-228-4208 or Email: nebraskapeohome@outlook.com

<https://www.nebraskapeohome.org/>

“Whet your appetite!” Read more about the topics below by clicking on the link below to access the Nebraska P.E.O. Home September newsletter:

September P.E.O. Home Newsletter

1. Our Residents and the offering of a “Move-In-Special.”
2. “Awesome August Activities” for our residents
3. Tours
4. Donation Needs
5. Memorial and Honorary Bricks — New wall to be built.
6. Chapters can still participate in the Adopt-a-Resident or Adopt-an-Employee programs
7. September 2023 is a MILESTONE Month for the Nebraska P.E.O. Home — why is the number 85 important in September 2023?





Seeking Nebraska Sisters

The window of opportunity to express interest in becoming a part of the Nebraska State Executive Board ends November 1, 2023. Perhaps some of you are already moving toward taking that jump into an absolutely incredible, fulfilling, and meaningful adventure.

The sister selected will be installed as the Nebraska state secretary at the Nebraska State Convention in June of 2024.

Please see the timeline below. Materials were included in all 2023 convention delegate packets.

Information can also be found on the Nebraska website under "[Future P.E.O. Leadership](#)."

- Complete a "Willingness to Serve Form" from the NE P.E.O. website. Do this ASAP!
- Contact Lisa ASAP indicating your interest.
- Your chapter will write a letter of support.
- Complete an inventory of skills, experience, etc. and submit it to Lisa. It must be postmarked by November 1, 2023.
- Interviews will take place, likely via Zoom, tentatively in November, 2023.
- The decision will be made and applicants notified soon after the interviews.

For more information about the process, and request materials, please contact:

Lisa Helmick, Chair of the State Nominating Committee
6712 North 65th Avenue
Omaha, NE 68152-2110
Cell: 402-669-4186

EMAIL: lisapeo@cox.net (Preferred method of contact)

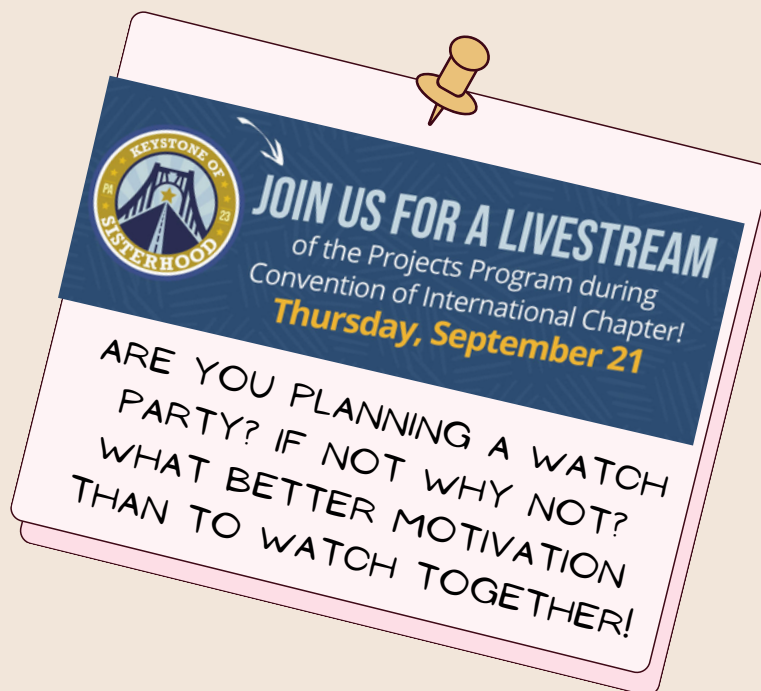
"If you think you are beaten, you are
If you think you dare not, you don't,
If you like to win, but you think you can't
It is almost certain you won't.

If you think you'll lose, you're lost
For out of the world we find,
Success begins with a fellow's will
It's all in the state of mind.

If you think you are outclassed, you are
You've got to think high to rise,
You've got to be sure of yourself before
You can ever win a prize.

Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger or faster man,
But soon or late the man who wins
Is the man WHO THINKS HE CAN!"

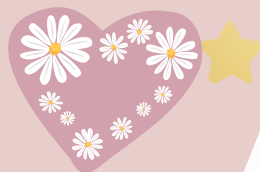
— WALTER D. WINTLE



A FEW OF THIS MONTH'S SPARKLING CHAPTERS!

HOW IS YOUR CHAPTER SHINING?

Chapter GM, Omaha, met the "You add to/2 P.E.O." challenge. We have initiated 4 new members since January 2023. Way to go Chapter GM for finding these amazing women.



Chapter GX - South Sioux City
volunteering at the Sioux City Downtown
Music Fest July 28 as a Fund Raiser three
Friday evenings.
Pictured: Pauline Kuehl, Linda Gann,
Nicole Berner, Chris Taylor and Mary
Macomber



Chapter IO added 2 to P.E.O. With a
transfer and an initiation! ❤️⭐️❤️



Chapter. CM, Crete gets together every
fourth Thursday for coffee at the library.
just a great way to get to know each
other without "business" and you can
invite a nonP.E.O. As well 😊



leave a little
sparkle
wherever you go