



Nebraska State Chapter

P.E.O. Newsletter

The Gift of P.E.O.: ★ Sisterhood ★ Education ★ Leadership"

July 2025 • Issue #1

Another Successful State Convention June 2025

After a year of hard work, keeping all the plates in the air, and planning for convention, it has now been here and gone! Isn't it amazing how fast time seems to fly by? If you missed attending the 135th convention of Nebraska State Chapter, you need to plan to attend next year. It was a wonderful convention full of information, instruction, and inspiration!

The experience is well worth it.



Our new board member was duly elected and installed. Penni Bruning, a member of Chapter O, has been a P.E.O. since 1988. Professionally, Penni is a Nurse with her BSN. More recently, she owns a livestock fence company and runs the family business.

Pictured above is the state board taken during the President's Banquet and Philanthropy Night. From left to right: Penni Bruning, Secretary; Amy Dusenbery, Organizer; Beth Anderson, Vice President; Capri McGuire, Treasurer; and Jean Matheny, President.

My theme for the year is "The Gift of P.E.O. – Sisterhood, Education, Leadership". Think about the Gift you were given when you were invited to join our Sisterhood. How many women have benefited from our mission to provide funds to help with their education. And what about the personal growth you have experienced from the Leadership opportunities that have come your way because of P.E.O.! More information on that later!

-**Jean Matheny**, NSC President

Chapter Reminders

****The delegate report of state convention must be given within 8 weeks of convention. If your chapter doesn't meet between now and then, consider holding a special meeting to complete this requirement.**

****Please check out the Nebraska State website. New and updated material from convention is now available.**

****Remember to log into the International website periodically to make sure you are using the most recent version of officer materials.**

Click [here](#) for the recent revisions.

Contact Information Update

**STATE PAID ASSISTANT
SECRETARY/TREASURER**

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P.E.O.—Where women motivate, educate and celebrate women.

Be Part of the Executive Board

Seeking Sisters WITH

Leadership Qualities Committed Planner Creative Honest
Critical Thinker Supportive Passionate Reflective/Decisive
Problem Solver Learner Able-bodied Helper

Most likely, you know a Nebraska P.E.O. sister who loves P.E.O. and would be a fabulous addition to the Nebraska State Executive Board or perhaps this sister is YOU! Have you talked with her, have you thought I could do that! I recommend you talk to someone on the nominating committee either about your sister or YOU! Now is the time to think about applying or suggesting to your sister she should apply.



Follow these simple steps to apply!

- Complete a "Willingness to Serve" form found in the 2025 convention delegate packet or on the Nebraska P.E.O. website: nebraskapeo.org Be sure the "Willingness" form gets to Vice President Beth Anderson
- Contact Kellie Stang ASAP indicating your interest and she will send application materials to you and give you all the information you will need and the steps in detail. It is an easy process to complete.
- Complete an inventory of skills, experience application, the chapter letter of support, and submit all to Kellie Stang by no later than postmark of November 1, 2025.
- Interviews will take place, likely via Zoom, in mid-November, if possible.
- Decision made and applicants notified by no later than February 28th, 2025

For further information about the process, and request materials, please contact Kellie Stang at 402-729-7677 OR kelliepeo@gmail.com

Upload your Convention Photos using the QR code, email your photos to:

PEOPower@submit.memento.com

Or go to the website to upload your photos

<https://albums.memento.com/PEOPower>

Thank you. You may also upload any photos from the past five years of Jane's term as a NE State Officer



You do not need an account to upload photos

Convention 2025 Honors Luncheon

The honors luncheon this year was full of color, laughter, joys and tears. The 7 honored chapters were:

- 125 years: Chapters T Clay Center & V Lincoln
- 100 years: Chapters DC Tekamah & DE S. Sioux City
- 75 years: Chapter FJ Columbus
- 50 years: Chapters HC Bellevue & HD Lincoln

Prior to celebrating the Golden Girls, we had a little reflection of what the world was like in 1975 and what were the most recent fads, popular TV shows, songs, and movies.

Betsy Thomas, BY, Lincoln and her committee had "superpowers" in decorating for the luncheon. A big round of applause for them!

These honor chapters and individual honorees definitely have super powers and have shared their gifts with others and our P.E.O. Sisterhood.



Chapter T Celebrating 125 years

Period of Instruction Convention 2025

Take your chapter from ORDINARY TO EXTRAORDINARY



1. *Be a cheerleader* – show your enthusiasm, it is contagious.
2. *Empowering growth* – look for ways to grow your chapter.
3. *Provide inspiring leadership* – say yes to being an officer, you can do it!
4. *Live our objects and aims* – reach out to a sister who has missed some meetings.

5. *Find Project applicants* – this brings a chapter together as you empower others.

6. *Involve your outer circles* – look around you for women who would benefit from P.E.O.

7. **HAVE FUN, BE JOYFUL, AND CELEBRATE!**

You can be the spark that sets your chapter on fire and brings new vitality to it.

Final Words from Past State President, (PSP) Jane Van Horn

After five years as a Nebraska State Chapter officer, it is kind of lonely! There has not been a barrage of emails, texts or phone calls. I think I am going through a little bit of withdrawal!

For those of you who were not at State Convention, I want to take the time to thank you for allowing me to be involved with NSC at the level for which I was. I grew as a human and as a P.E.O. I pray that I was a positive influence and that what I shared with the local chapters helped you to be better for each other and for your communities.

As I said in my closing remarks, even though my theme is gone, the Power of P.E.O. is still alive and well. Go out there and fulfill the purpose of P.E.O. to 'motivate, educate and celebrate women'. Feel empowered to go out and find those who need P.E.O. either through being a part of a chapter or because a woman is working to improve her life through education. And don't forget to take the opportunity to share the message of P.E.O. and the great things we do as an organization.

The Memento website for photo uploading is available. Please share your 2025 convention photos and any memorable photos of my interaction with you through chapter visits, reciprocity meetings of previous conventions. I look forward to creating a memory book of my time with NSC.

Take care and I challenge you to find the One; the one person (or more) who can grow and thrive in P.E.O. Blessings...

Board Buddies

-An Invitation

So, what exactly are Board Buddies? Hopefully, you have all heard the term, but if not, well then, here you go!

Each year, the executive board members divide all the chapters in the state into five different groups. We each take a group and they become our Board Buddies.



The goal is to meet with the chapter presidents in our groups via ZOOM at least quarterly, but preferable every month. Sometimes the meetings are scheduled on a regular basis, and sometimes a special meeting may be called. It just depends on the Board member, what the Board Buddies group wants, and what is going on in P.E.O.

At times, the meeting may have a set agenda while other times the group sets the topic. Our goal is for all of us to get to know the other chapter presidents and for us on the board to serve as a resource.

And there you have it! So be watching for an invitation and feel free to share it with others in your chapter!



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Announcing a P.E.O. Scholar Award

The trustees of the P.E.O. Scholar Awards have given careful consideration to the applications received. From 776 outstanding women nominated by the local P.E.O. chapters,

100 have been selected as scholars for the 2025-2026 academic year. Of these, 1 is from Nebraska! She is Jennifer Bockerman Nominated by Chapter CC.

Each of the scholars will receive an award of \$25,000.00. We encourage you to extend a warm welcome to her and to stay connected with her during her year as a P.E.O. Scholar.

Some recipients have opted not to have their information shared publicly. Please confirm publicity preferences with the nominating chapter.

We are delighted to give you the good news about scholars in your state and appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely,

Terry Northcutt, Chair P.E.O. Scholar Awards Board of Trustees

The P.E.O. Scholar Awards (PSA) was 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. The maximum award amount is \$25,000.00.



Technology Tidbit

Dear Sisters, In my attempt to keep everyone engaged and "in-the-know" when it comes to technology usage in the Sisterhood, these short tech tidbits will be a part of each newsletter. I hope to answer questions, include reminders and instructions, and cover areas where I get the most questions.

A ["Technology in the Local Chapter"](#) handout was distributed and discussed at our recent state convention. Click on the title above to locate it on the Nebraska website.

For instructions for website access, this is a great resource for all chapter members! (Consider including the steps for logging onto the websites in your chapter yearbook!) All other info included in the handout will be helpful for chapter officers throughout the year. Keeping a copy of the handout in the officers' supplies would keep the information close at hand!

I look forward to reaching out to you each month and hope the information shared will help everyone feel more comfortable and successful with technology! Reach out to me if you ever have questions or concerns!

Lovingly, Leann Drullinger, PSP, AK
Technology for NSC

leanndrullinger@gmail.com

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Phone: 402-228-4208

Email: nebraskapeohome@outlook.com

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



Home Leadership Team

Back left: Administrator, Shari Little Back

Right: DON Kristie McClellan

Seated: Maintenance Director, Nic Essam

2025 Nebraska State Chapter Convention **DELEGATE PACKET COPIES FOR THE** **HOME:**

--The **UPDATED Adopt-A-Resident and**

Adopt-An-Employee form--each year, the assignments are updated and likely changed. The assignment runs from July 1 to the following June 30 each year. Chapters must complete a new form each year. There was also a suggested gift list.

--The delegates also received an updated general donation form in their packets. You can make copies as needed. **A donation form must accompany ANY kind of donation to the Home.**

--Information about the recently approved "Purposeful Living Chapter" donation can be found below --it mirrors the International projects having a "partnership" donation possibility. **Delegates received an information sheet AND a special donation form for this special monetary gift.**



We live with purpose so our residents can live with purpose. **MANY thanks for your generosity in supporting our loved Home – the Home that Love Built!**

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING: The Nebraska P.E.O. Home is a **501(c)3, non-profit organization. Your donation may be tax deductible. Check with your financial planner or tax preparer to see if your donation may be eligible to be deducted from your taxes.**

Nebraska P.E.O. Home Board **Directors for 2025 – 2026**

Jodi Keeler, President,

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Sharon Lauber, Vice President

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Jeanne Ross-Muhlback

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TOURS of OUR HOME,

please note:

**Always make arrangements
through our Home
Administrator: Shari Little –
contact info below:**

--Monday through Friday works best – morning is rather busy, but afternoon or evening certainly works. Only one weekend, per month, could possibly work as well, **ask Shari.**

Contact Shari Little, well in advance, please.

nebraskapeohome@outlook.com

History of the P.E.O. Home Programs

Please contact Shari Little if your chapter is interested in a program about our Home at one of your chapter meetings.

Contact Shari Little, well in advance, please.

nebraskapeohome@outlook.com

Announcing a New Way to Support the Nebraska P.E.O. Home!

As P.E.O.'s, we are all aware of the special category of awards connected to our International Projects. For special annual gifts of \$500 to each of the projects, the name given is:

ELF – Legacy Chapter

IPS – Partners in Peace Chapter

PCE – Brighter Tomorrow Chapter

Scholar Award – Laureate Chapter

STAR – STAR Constellation Chapter

Cottey – Cottey College Luminary Chapter

Nebraska is unique in that P.E.O.'s give generously and often to support our loved Nebraska P.E.O. Home. We enjoy knowing that staff members love working there, families are delighted and supported by the care their loved ones are given, our residents often share that they are treated like royalty. As Chalice Harvey, a former Home Board Director, once said, "Love and care abounds here." We all know the tag line for all things P.E.O. Home – it is, "The House that Love Built".

Why is it called the "Purposeful Life Award"? It is because our residents come from many places, work backgrounds, and interest levels. Their purposes and interests do not end – they grow, and new interests are discovered. Residents have purposeful lives just as we all strive to have. Whether it is cooking, gardening, reading, exercise, musical talent, taking day trips, playing games – and more, our residents, staff, and volunteers build relationships that help them to learn, grow, and find new interests and friendships in their lives.

The "Purposeful Life Award" will be given to chapters and individuals who donate a monetary gift of a minimum of \$500 (in a lump sum) during the 2025 – 2026 year. At the 2026 convention, those chapters and individuals will be recognized at their "chapter delegate" seats. They will also receive a certificate of having made this special donation. The period to be recognized for these special donations, at the June 2026 convention, begins now – through March 10, 2026. Consider this the giving period for each subsequent year, for these donations to be submitted. Beginning March 10, each year, the new year begins – March 10 through the next March 10 for the following convention.

NEBRASKA P.E.O. HOME WEB

SITE:

Chapter committees can always find news on the site AND in the Nebraska state newsletters to share at local chapter meetings!

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

**ALSO, use the information in
Nebraska State Chapter P.E.O.
Newsletters for chapter
reports – they are archived for
one year on the Home-specific
website.**

YOU ARE AN AMBASSADOR:

Are YOU spreading the news about our fabulous P.E.O. Home? All Nebraska P.E.O. Sisters are a line of communication about our Home. Though Nebraska women have priority, residents do NOT have to be from Nebraska – but Nebraska P.E.O.'s are given priority.

