



Nebraska State Chapter P.E.O. Newsletter

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

August 2025 • Issue #2

Did you Ever Wonder Where it all Began?

This past weekend all of the International State/Provincial/District Presidents and Organizers gathered for a seminar in Des Moines, Iowa along with the Executive Board of International Chapter.

Our workshops were, of course, extremely informative and it was so special to reconnect with everyone from across the organization. We worked hard and had a few laughs along the way.



One of the highlights for me, was a bus tour to Mt. Pleasant, Iowa to the campus of Iowa Wesleyan University. As you know, it closed its doors a few years ago. However, the Mt. Pleasant School System has since bought it. They are currently leasing us part of the building that the Music Room is located in. I couldn't believe how touching it was for me to actually stand in that room around the very table that our seven Founders gathered around to say their vows.

And if you have ever wondered where the stile was where they had the idea, well... At that time, the college was located in the country. It had a fence around the grounds to keep the wild animals out. The stile was actually located at the corner and was used by students to gain access!

-Jean Matheny, NSC President



Contact Information Update

EMAIL CHANGE FOR P.E.O. HOME
BOARD SECRETARY

Jeanne Ross-Muhlbach
907 Westridge Dr.,
Ravenna, NE 68869
308-627-7034
muhlbach@charter.net

Organizer Moment

Take photos and share on Facebook with a description of your chapter's activities. Share on your personal page as well as the different P.E.O. websites (your chapter, Nebraska P.E.O., P.E.O. Positivity, etc.)

Be sure to explain the activity. If a non-P.E.O. comments on your post, reach out to her. She just might be interested in more information about being a P.E.O.!!

Official visits are coming up starting in August through November. If you are scheduled for a visitation, please return your information sheet to your visiting officer ASAP. Also, remember that your visiting officer is coming to be helpful and answer questions.

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



We Are Headed to CIC in Phoenix!!!

We have a delegation of 55 women and a few BILs headed to Phoenix September 4-6, 2025 for the

Convention of International Chapter (CIC)! Excitement is building as we prepare to meet with sisters from all across the United States and Canada. In addition to the many workshops available, sisters will also be taking advantage of the extra tour opportunities available. The spring and summer editions of The P.E.O. Record have all the details.

The chapter delegates who were elected at our recent state convention are listed in the 2025 State Convention Program on page 27. These ladies will represent our state and as such, are voting members of CIC. Our voting delegation includes many PSPs (Past State Presidents), and the state president and vice president. Well, what does this mean?

Our delegates are our state representatives. They will be prepared to vote on the many proposed amendments as listed in the spring Record. If you would like to give your input on any of the proposed amendments, we welcome those thoughts. That being said, the delegate is in no way obligated to vote a certain way because she is asked to. Nor will she divulge how she voted as this is a secret ballot.

Each delegate, after listening to the debate on the floor of convention and taking into consideration all that she has heard, will vote as she sees fit and believes to be in the best interest of the Sisterhood; that she believes will be for the betterment and success of our beloved organization.

*****Don't forget, following CIC, each chapter will be responsible for presenting a CIC report to her chapter.** It must be done either in the same month as CIC or by the end of November at the very latest. You may ask one of the delegates if she is available to give the report or you can use the prepared report that will be posted on the state website following the close of CIC.

Your chapter representative delegate can be found on the state website by clicking [HERE](#).

Tech Tidbits

This month, I am sharing a couple of important items from the International website:

- *On Monday, August 4th, the login page for the International P.E.O. website will look different! I am not sure how, but be ready! Your username and password will NOT change.*
- *Recent Revisions to Policies, Manuals and Forms: Due to the volume and timeliness of edits to various policies, manuals and forms, a listing of revisions has been put together for your convenience and reference. Please check this page periodically as things will be added on a routine basis. The date at the top will be updated when items are updated. The page can be found at:*

<https://www.peointernational.org/news/recent-revisions-to-policies-manuals-and-forms/>

Any technology questions or help—send them my way at leanndrullinger@gmail.com

*Leann Drullinger, PSP, AK
Technology for NSC*

Seeking Nebraska Sisters

HELP WANTED!!!

August 2025



<u>Leadership Qualities</u>		
Supportive	Inspirational	Creative
Honest	Highly Committed	Critical Thinker
Passionate	Reflective/Decisive	Problem Solver
Learner	LOVE P.E.O.	Able-bodied
Team Player	Helpful/Caring	Energetic

You will likely know a Nebraska P.E.O. Sister or maybe it's you, who would be a fabulous addition to the Nebraska State Executive Board. Have you said to yourself "I'd like to be involved in leadership; how can I be more involved with P.E.O.?" Have you talked with a sister, encouraged her, and asked if she might be interested? Do not wait! Get more information for yourself or your sister! The incoming Nebraska State Executive Board Secretary and officers will be installed at the 2026 Nebraska State Convention in June!

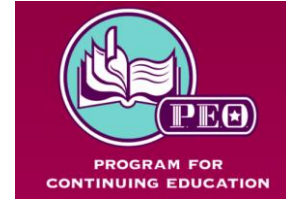
PROCESS FOR FALL 2025:

- ✓ Complete a "Willingness to Serve" form found in the 2025 Convention Delegate Packet or on the Nebraska P.E.O. website: www.nebraskapeo.org
- ✓ Contact Kellie Stang ASAP indicating your interest in being a candidate for the executive board and she will send application materials to you.
- ✓ Complete an inventory of skills, experience, etc., the chapter letter of support, and submit all to Kellie Stang no later than **Saturday, 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 more information about the process, and request materials, please contact:

Kellie Stang, Chair of the State Nominating Committee
6430 Holdrege St., Lincoln, NE 68505
Cell: 402-729-7677 / EMAIL: kelliepeo@gmail.com

Program for Continuing Education



As the new school year is

starting, it is time to look around to see if you know of anyone that can be considered for a Program for Continuing Education grant.

As a reminder, the eligibility requirements are:

- the recipient needs to have had at least 24 consecutive months as a non-student sometime in her adult life
- is within 18 consecutive months of completing her educational program
- the enrolled program, when completed, will lead to employment or job advancement
- has not already earned a master's degree or above.

For women looking for a Spring 2026 grant (January 2026 Term Start):

- Anticipated graduation date before June 30, 2027
- Chapter recommendation window is between 8 and 14 weeks prior to

start of the term/semester.

- This translates to basically the month of October 2025 for Chapter recommendation submissions.

Start looking now so your chapter is ready when that submission window opens.

For the complete application process and tips, please go to the PCE section on the International website.

If you have any questions or need additional information about the PCE grant, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at

heatherapeo@gmail.com.

Heather Adams, EK, Nebraska State PCE Chair



Attention Chapter STAR Chairs!

**The following was recently
posted on the P.E.O.
International Facebook page!**

[Resource Library - P.E.O. International](#)

STAR Scholarship time is here!! August is the time to start the STAR Scholarship nomination process. The

nomination form is on the P.E.O. website, and it is easy to access. Be aware that there have been a few small improvements and changes in the form this year. Please read over the nomination form before you begin.

The forms must be submitted no later than October 15, 2025, but will not be accepted before August 15, 2025. Once your submission has been accepted by the notice from the P.E.O. office, please inform your nominee and your chapter.

If your nominee has already begun the submittal, please be aware there have been recent refinements. There still is adequate time to complete the submittal with any corrections.

This year recommendation letters will be filed in support of your nominee by uploading the document rather than by an email process. There are resources and instructions available for the submission of these support letters.

It is always a good idea to check with your nominee to offer help, remind them of deadlines, and give them encouragement. A senior year is always full of deadlines, activities, and stress.

As always, email or call me if you need help or have questions.

Charlene Meyer: chmeyer@cox.net 402-698-4606

International



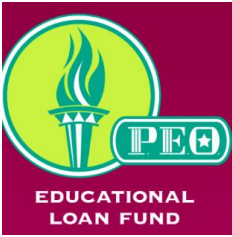
Peace Scholarship

Hope you enjoyed and were as inspired as I was at the 2025 State Convention! If you weren't able to attend, I'm sure your delegate shared her enthusiasm regarding the event.

As a reminder now is the time to find International candidates for the International Peace Scholarship. Check with local colleges and universities or other community groups for these very special potential candidates. Since its inception in 1949 the I.P.S. has awarded \$52.1 million to 7,276 women!

Has your chapter done a special fundraiser to support IPS? Let me know and I'll recognize you in the newsletter. Contact me at 402-321-6109 or casrnsn@gmail.com. Chapter IM of Omaha held a Magnificent Marathon in July to raise money for their church youth groups and IPS. I was invited to speak and share information about IPS. and my experiences with one of the scholarship recipients.

Carol Sorensen, IPS Chair



Educational Loan Fund

The Educational Loan Fund has made some changes I want to make sure you are aware of as they will significantly alter the ways we can help women on their educational journey.

New Max Loan Awards & New Indebtedness Limits

As a review, the new increased maximum loan awards and increased indebtedness limits for applicants are as follows:

Maximum Loan Awards	Indebtedness Limits
\$12,000 for non-degree & associate degree programs	\$40,000 for non-degree programs \$75,000 for associate degree programs
\$15,000 for bachelor's degree programs	\$100,000 for bachelor's degree programs
\$20,000 for master's degree programs	\$135,000 for master's degree programs
\$25,000 for doctoral degree programs	\$235,000 for doctoral degree programs

*non-degree programs include trade school, certificate, licensure and endorsement programs

In addition, all loans will be disbursed in one installment. With these changes, the main being the addition of the Associate Degree/non-Degree addition we will be able to reach and help more women. Please reach out if you have any questions or need any assistance submitting a woman for the ELF Loan! Let's have a great year with the ELF!!

Capri McGuire, NSC Treasurer



P.E.O. Scholar Awards

As summer begins to wind down and we head into the beginning of another school year it is time again to think about women who are looking for financial assistance to pursue

their educational goals. The Scholar Award is an exciting opportunity for women pursuing doctoral-level programs. As a reminder, the Scholar Award is a one-time, competitive, merit-based award intended to recognize and encourage academic excellence and achievement by women in doctoral-level programs.

It should be noted that the online application for the Scholar Award is available every year from August 20th to November 20th. So, if you have a woman you are interested in nominating, now is the time to get all

the information lined up and be ready to fill out the online nomination form starting after August 20th.

The online nomination form and submission instructions are available on the P.E.O. International member website (www.peointernational.org) as is a wealth of information around the Scholar Award for chapters and the women we nominate.

Wondering how to find women who would be eligible for the Scholar Award? Establishing contact with faculty in top graduate programs is a great way to find candidates for the prestigious P.E.O. Scholar Award. Is your chapter in a town that has a collegiate program for doctoral studies? Think about finding ways to connect with the women in those programs. Once you have researched the institution and reviewed Scholar Award eligibility requirements, contact department chairs or deans of doctoral programs to inform them about the P.E.O. Scholar Awards and ask for referrals of their top women doctoral candidates. The further along a woman is in her program, the better her chances are for selection.

I wish you all the success finding qualified women and in your nomination processes. If you have any questions please reach out.

Cristy Fryzek, State Scholar Award Chair



RECIPROCITY noun

\re·ci·pro·city\

RE: Reciprocity meetings will be happening this fall.

CI: Chapter Invitations are sent to the president, but chapters may send as many sisters as want to attend.

PRO: Providing the opportunity to meet sisters from other chapters, as well as learn new ways to raise funds and new ideas for chapter vitality.

CITY: It is encouraging to hear what is happening in your city and area: P.E.O. is strong in Nebraska and will continue to be strong as we meet and support each other.

Visit the Nebraska state P.E.O. [website](#) for details on all Reciprocity meetings and to locate the time, date, and location for your chapter's meeting.

A Few Words from the Secretary

Gardening is like nurturing lives... The seeds you planted in May are flourishing, some among weeds, and some that didn't sprout. All lessons in gardening and life.

Expressing a loving concern can be a text, a phone call, or share some of your garden flowers or produce--with a note left on their front doorstep -to let them know YOU are there for them.

As I visited with many women at convention --I realized just how much our sisters are carrying with them in their lives. Lots of prayers and love are needed to help us all navigate through life---and it doesn't cost us a thing if we can listen, encourage and support one another.

Our sisters need to be nurtured like prized plants given sunshine, water, and the right nutrients to be the best they can be.

Be there for your sisters and bring them joy in their lives.....that one conversation may be their only sunshine that day.

The inspiration from convention gave me even more energy to try to be some sunshine to a sister.

LiP.E.O., Penni Bruning,
NSC Secretary

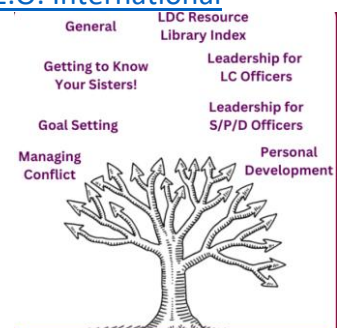
Leadership Resources

The skills you build as a P.E.O. member – including public speaking, project planning, working as part of a team and goal setting – transfer to other areas in your life. P.E.O. helps you become stronger in your career, your family and any other organizations you are a part of.

The P.E.O. Leadership Development Committee has created resources on topics such as creating dynamic presentations, conflict resolution, project planning and more. These trainings are available to active P.E.O. members.

To explore these resources, select a button found on the Leadership Resources Page to see the Leadership Development Resources related to that topic. A PDF will be come up that lists all resources for that topic. Select a resource and it will take you right to that resource in the Resource Library.

[Leadership Development - P.E.O. International](#)





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

Phone: 402-228-4208 Email: nebraskapeohome@outlook.com
<https://www.nebraskapeohome.org/>

Administrator Shari Little, Activities Director Cindy Zajicek, Director of Nursing Kristie McClellan enjoyed time at the Harvest Home Flower Farm and are planning how residents can travel to Waverly to participate in the beauty and fun!
(More photos at the end.)

RESIDENT NEWS: Welcome to Virginia Laflin, Chapter AT/Tecumseh who moved in recently. She has a rather large family, and all have been in for a visit.

TWO BABY BOYS: Our two on our nursing staff have given birth to their boys. BOTH moms and their boys were in to visit the residents recently. What fun for all to meet and hold them.



Big Give Gage

The Nebraska P.E.O. Home

We are a non-profit stand-alone 20 bed assisted living facility. We have been licensed by the state of Nebraska since 2006, but we have been operating since 1938. We care for P.E.O. sisters in a home-like

atmosphere. We provide quality care with home cooked meals, outings and activities for all. We are the "Home That Love Built!"
www.biggivegage.org

Early donor giving begins on Sept. 4th until midnight on Sept. 10th.

The Big Give Day is Sept. 11th.

We are raising funds to make our current front door handicap accessible. Our goal is to receive \$5,000 in donations to



begin this project. Use the URL below to donate.

https://www.biggivegage.org/organization/the_home_that_love_build



TOURS of OUR HOME, please know these things: 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 work as well, ask Shari.

Contact Shari Little, well in advance, please.

nebraskapeohome@outlook.com

SEEKING NEW BOARD DIRECTOR TO BEGIN IN JUNE 2026: It is always sad when one of our Home Board Directors “terms out”. Each is eligible to serve three, three-year terms. One of our directors will term out after convention in 2026. We are seeking other Nebraska P.E.O sisters who would be interested in applying to fill the opening so that we have a total of nine directors beginning after convention, June 2026.

We usually do have a focus for our nominating committee to consider in the way of skills, talents, and abilities. For this position, we are hoping to find an NE Sister with **technology, marketing, financial, and human relations specialties.**

If interested, please complete a “Willingness to Serve Form” – on the Nebraska website: www.nebraskapeo.org and **send it to the state Vice President Beth Anderson as directed**, but please also send a copy to the Home nominating committee chair: Jeanne Wicks, 3724 South 83rd St Cir, Lincoln, NE 68506 – you can also email her at: jmwicks2@gmail.com

These forms are due to Jeanne Wicks by December 1, 2025. You will receive an application to complete and return. All candidates will be interviewed, and a decision will be made as to the selectee by the end of January 2026.

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. _____

P.E.O. Home Programs: Yes, chapters DID receive a Constant Contact about changes in the scheduling of in-person programs, for your chapters,

about our beloved Home. A second type of program has been added, as well. A program can be emailed to you for your own chapter Home Committee to use. Lisa Helmick has already been contacted by a few chapters about the programs that will be available beginning September 1, 2025, and will be on-going – NOT just in 2025. A simple “Request” form was included with the Constant Contact message in July. If you have questions, please contact Lisa Helmick, PSP, email preferred:

lisapeocoxnet@yahoo.com

You can also call 402-669-4186 and she will return your call as soon as she can.

Please complete the form, to plan a Home Program for your chapter.

Option #1: Can be emailed, to your chapter representative, any time after Sept. 1, 2025

Option #2: Please schedule during the months of March – October.

Choose only ONE offering.

MORE photos below!

P.E.O. Newsletter *continued...*



DON, Kristie McClellan

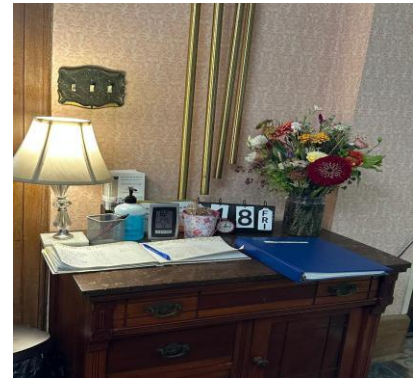
Administrator, Shari Little



**Three Past State Presidents,
Lisa Helmick, Renee Piper * Kellie Stang**



**Four of the bouquets were
placed in various locations in
our Home for ALL to enjoy!**



**Chapter GF, Omaha, used this
“Flower Farm Frolic” as a
FUNdraiser – to grow project
funds and great memories
among the chapter members
and guests.**

