



Nebraska State Chapter P.E.O. Newsletter

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

September 2025 • Issue #3

Your State Executive Board Staying Busy!

I must say, serving on the state executive board has been one of the highest honors of my life. We stay busy working on behalf of the state. Every fall we get together for a 3-to-4-day retreat and planning meeting. This year we met in Hastings, where I live. We also take time to do some team building and eat some good food! This year we experienced an escape room! We made it in under an hour, but it was close!!



Even though we meet monthly via ZOOM, having the opportunity to meet in person is invaluable! We get so much accomplished!

Just like the local chapters set yearly goals, so too, does the state! Most of the goals have to do with how we can help the state membership and local chapters stay strong and vital. The best way is to share the Gift of Sisterhood with other women. I love seeing all the posts on Facebook sharing all the exciting things that are happening in the chapters!

-Jean Matheny, NSC President



Project Donation Procedures:

All chapter & reciprocity donations are sent to the state using this form.

[Project Donation Form - Local Chapter & Reciprocities \(6/24\)](#)

Individual donations to NE Cottey Scholarships & NE Discover Cottey sent to the state with this form.

[Project Donation Form Nebraska Projects Only - Individual \(6/24\)](#)

The most current form will be posted on the NE website - Members, Resource Library, Local Chapter Toolbox.

Checks made out to: **NE State Chapter P.E.O.** and mailed to:

Jean Danley

NSC P.E.O. Asst Sec/Treas

14440 Heywood St, Waverly, NE 68462

402-499-5247 - jmdnepeo@gmail.com

Individual donations for the International Projects can be done online or you can print a form to be mailed to International or Cottey College.

Reminder - donations need to be postmarked by December 15th for the Gift List cutoff date.

Thank you for your support of the Projects! – Jean Danley

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Plan to Attend your Reciprocity Meeting

Reciprocity meetings are a great way to meet sisters from other chapters, get fundraising ideas, spectacular meeting topics, affirmation that "you got this"! It is a time to celebrate chapter anniversaries, Golden Girls, and hear news from state level committees. It is definitely worth taking the time to attend. Below is the schedule for all reciprocity meetings across Nebraska. Carpool with your sisters and celebrate the successes of your reciprocity group. Mark your calendar and make a day of it!

Date	Group	Officer	Location	Time	President
9/25/2025	II & IX	Capri McGuire Convention Group	Covenant Presbyterian Church 1701 W 27 th Scottsbluff	Coffee 6:30pm Meeting 7:00pm	Hostess Chapter DY Paula Shearer GB Pres sherigat@gmail.com
9/27/2025	III & X	Sherry Erlwine	Westway Christian Church 1701 W 27 th Scottsbluff	Coffee 9:00am Meeting 9:30am	Hostess Chapter GA Sarah Dorshorst FO Pres libob.dorshorst@gmail
9/27/2025	VIII	Amy Dusenbery Convention Group	Presbyterian Church Fairbury	Registration 9:00 Meeting 9:30 am	Hostess Chapter IP Becky Neemann FV Pres rneemann@gmail.com
10/04/2025	IV	Capri McGuire	Hard Patch Breubaus, Hartington	Registration 10 Meeting 10:30	Hostess Chapter HZ Brenda Steiner HZ Pres steiner@hartei.net
10/04/2025	VII	Beth Anderson Convention Group	York country Club 1016 W Elm St York NE	Coffee 9:30 am Meeting/Brunch 10:00 am	Hostess Chapter HH Pat Carpenter HH Pres patcarpenteryork@gmail
10/04/2025	XIV	Amy Dusenbery	Franklin Masonic Lodge 1401 J Street	Coffee 9:00am	Hostess Chapter P Becky Cleveland P Pres Beckycleveland5@gmail
10/11/2025	V & XII	Jane Van Horn Convention Group	Cornhusker Bank 8300 O Lincoln	Social 9:30 am Meeting 10:00	Hostess Chapter V Anne Walton FW Pres annewalden58@gmail
10/11/2025	XI	Penni Bruning Convention Group	Nelson Community Nelson	Coffee 9:00am Brunch 10:00am	Hostess Chapter J Carol Eckles J Pres ecklescj@gmail.com
10/11/2025	I	Jean Matheny	Kirk's Restaurant 3002 Plum Parkway Lexington	Registration 10:00 Meeting 10:30	Hostess Chapter GH Sheri Gi3esgrecht GR Pres sherigat@gmail.com
10/12/2025	VI	Jean Mathey Convention Group	First Lutheran Church So Sioux City	Registration 12:30 Meeting 1:00	Hostess Chapter DE Mary Ellen Speck DE Pres mespeck@gmail.com
10/18/2025	XIII	Beth Anderson	Christ Lutheran Church St Paul	Registration 9:30 Brunch 10:00	Hostess Chapter AP Francine Rasmussen AP Rasfamily2011@hotmail



CIC in Phoenix!!!

In just a few short days, CIC will be in full swing! Unofficial voting results on each of the amendments will be posted on the International website.

*****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.

Be a P.E.O. in the Know! Register for a Session

Join the Executive Board of International Chapter for virtual updates throughout the 2025-2027 biennium! The first update will be this fall and dedicated to a review of the amendments adopted at the 2025 Convention of International Chapter. Register for a session at the links below. Then share what you learned with your chapter!



For Local Chapter Members

[Tuesday, September 30 at 6:00 p.m. Central Time](#)

[Thursday, October 2 at 12:00 p.m. Central Time](#)

Tech Tidbits

Have you had the chance to check out the new P.E.O. Hub, International Chapter's new information center? I am still getting used to it, but I am finding it user friendly and fairly

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

easy to move around in! I am still learning myself, but here are a few items worth mentioning:

The Dashboard is the place to start!

- On the left side, search the headings to find what information or resource you are looking for.
 - Under Resources:
 - Library: forms, manuals, etc. for all officers and committees
 - Training: short videos explaining how to the different areas of the Hub
- On the right side:
 - My Chapter: all the info about your chapter you will ever need!
 - My shortcuts: organized just for you, giving the links to pages you use most often. "Release Notes" lists, by dates, the continued updates and additions being made on the Hub
- FYI--The current P.E.O. website will be discontinued on September 15, when all member resources will be located on the Hub.

Explore the P.E.O. Hub—I think you will like it!

Leann Drullinger, PSP, AK Technology for Nebraska State Chapter

Seeking Nebraska Sisters Building a Leadership Pipeline September 2025



Leadership Qualities

Supportive
Honest
Passionate
Learner
Team Player

Inspirational
Highly Committed
Reflective/Decisive
LOVE P.E.O.
Helpful/Caring

Creative
Critical Thinker
Problem Solver
Able-bodied
Energetic

You most 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 you like helping others? Do you like sharing ideas? Don't wait! Get more information for yourself or your sister! Learn how you can become a leader in Nebraska! Think of all the good things we can accomplish together! Find out how now!

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.

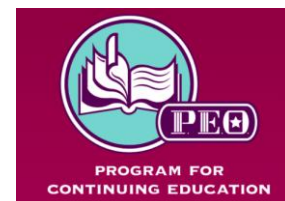
For more information about the process, and request materials, please contact:

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

Program for Continuing Education is a need-based grant to women who have had their education interrupted and want to return to school to complete a degree or certification that will improve their skills for



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employment to support themselves and or family.

PCE provides a one-time grant with a maximum award of \$4,000. These funds can also cover education related expenses beyond tuition and books. These expenses can include testing and graduating fees, transportation expense to school and day care while in class or studying.

Chapter recommendation form needs to be submitted between 8 and 16 weeks prior to starting date of semester.

Attention Chapter STAR Chairs!



STAR SCHOLARSHIP

P.E.O STAR Scholarship provides scholarships for exceptional women in their final year of high school to attend an accredited postsecondary education institution in the

U.S. or Canada in the next academic year.

- The award amount is \$2,500.
- Now is the time to submit your name for the STAR Scholarship
- You have until October 15th to submit a name.

Please remember the deadline is 11:59 EDT.

International Peace Scholarship

Did you know that since its beginning in 1949, women from 149 countries have received this scholarship?

- *Eligibility form must be completed between September 15th until December 15th.*
- *This is award to women from other countries that will earn their graduate degree in the United States or Canada and then return to their home country to help make a difference.*



**INTERNATIONAL PEACE
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**



Educational Loan Fund

The Educational Loan Fund was established in 1907 and has since awarded \$262.9 million to 52,429 women.

- *Must be between 6 – 24 months of graduation.*
- *Accepts recommendations year-round. It is a need-based loan with 2% simple interest.*
- *Will receive award if requirements are met.*
- *Recipients pay it forward by paying it back.*

New slogan is: You find them – we will fund them.



P.E.O. Scholar Awards

Now is the time to identify and interview potential candidates for a \$25,000 P.E.O. Scholar Award. For women pursuing a doctorate level degree at an accredited university.

- *Online nomination form must be completed by local chapters between August 20th and November 20th.*

CELEBRATE!!



Make your chapter meetings a celebration!

Here are a few suggestions:

- ✓ *Each year in the month of your charter, hold a birthday party.*
- ✓ *At the party, use the P.E.O. history books to share some of the history of your chapter.*
- ✓ *You can also use this time as an opportunity to make goals for the next year.*
- ✓ *Each month, celebrate the sisters who were initiated in that month or transferred to your chapter.*

P.E.O. is a gift! Celebrate your sisters and your chapter! Enjoy!

A Few Words from the Secretary

Reciprocity Meetings will be happening this fall all over the state! IF you have never gone to one-this is the year to do it!

Did you know that reciprocity means the practice of exchanging things with others for mutual benefit, especially from one to another?

If you have never gone you are missing opportunities to find out new things of what other chapters are doing to grow and have fun together, while supporting and helping P.E.O. sisters Motivate, Educate and Celebrate!

Fall is a great time for fundraising—check out all the great ideas chapters are sharing on Facebook. Remember every fundraiser is helping women reach their dreams by funding scholarships, loans, and educational grants, as well as supporting our very own P.E.O. Home in Beatrice.

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

Nebraska Discover Cottey Fund

A little background on the Nebraska Discover Cottey Fund.

The Nebraska Discover Cottey Fund was created when The Cottey Bus Trip was eliminated due to changes in the visitation process at Cottey College. Nebraska State Chapter voted to move the money from the Cottey Bus Trip that had been gifted to the new named Nebraska Discover Cottey.

The purpose of the Nebraska Discover Cottey Fund is to provide financial reimbursement for Nebraska high school students to visit Cottey College as prospective students. Allowable expenses may include mileage, meals and housing for the student and one chaperone. They travel on their own to Cottey rather than having a chartered bus which in turn has been more economical for Nebraska and easier on the students and parents.

The Cottey College Committee receives and administers the applications and award travel reimbursement, with the approval of the executive board.

Details of this fund can be found in the Nebraska Bylaws found on the Nebraska website. A representative for the Cottey Committee will be giving you more up to date information at your reciprocity meetings.

You may allocate your gift giving each year to the Nebraska Discover Cottey Fund by using the NEBRASKA LOCAL CHAPTER & RECIPROCITY GROUP DONATION FORM found on the Nebraska website. Specify on the line provided you would like your Cottey contribution to go to Nebraska Discover Cottey.

International Project Donations

\$_____Cottey College, if Designation: Specify Nebraska Discover Cottey

On behalf of the Cottey Committee: Renee Piper, PSP, Chapter HX, Chair

Leadership Resources

Is your chapter leadership pipeline bursting or trickling! The link below is a video presentation that focuses on establishing a positive culture, identifying potential leaders and nurturing budding leaders. Empower your current leaders and encourage leadership growth!

The link will also take you to a PowerPoint and a Handout

There are Four Key Elements to creating a flowing pipeline of chapter leaders.

Clarity
Opportunity
Support
Appreciation

I encourage you and your chapter to take a minute to view the video and ponder how it will work in your chapter!



[Create a Flowing Pipeline of Chapter Leaders – P.E.O. International](#)



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September P.E.O. Membership Minute

Let's go find the others!

In order for our Sisterhood to continue to grow, we need to be constantly on the lookout for new Sisters. Traditionally, we have looked to the daughters/families of current members but what about all of the amazing women we interact with on a regular basis? Could your next Sister be the teacher down the hall, the new member of your pilates class or someone who has recently joined your Bible study? New P.E.O.s can be found anywhere!

Congratulations!!

The following chapters gave the gift of P.E.O since June 1:

FD, FT, GM, & IE

Congrats to those chapters & welcome to our new Sisters!



If you initiated but you don't see your chapter listed above, make sure your corresponding secretary has submitted your new Sister's information.

Set Goals for your Chapter

As we have done in past years, the Membership Development Committee will be focusing on new sisters and no new inactives. What are some goals your chapter could set just for you? Do you want to increase monthly attendance? Increase attendance at socials? Contact Sisters on the unaffiliate list? What can you do to help your chapter thrive?



Important Reminders

- If you have someone transfer in to your chapter, please let me know. If they come off of the unaffiliate list, I will communicate that to the state unaffiliate committee.
- If your chapter is struggling in any way, please reach out. I may not be able to be of much assistance but I will connect you with the right people.
- If I can be of any assistance at all, please reach out. My email is katharineks@gmail.com and my number is 402-917-6567. If you have the ability, text is the best way to reach me. I teach middle school full time and have limited hours when I can answer my phone. If you text me, I will get back to you ASAP.



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Nebraska P.E.O. Home
The Home That Love Built

September 2025

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/>

RESIDENT NEWS: Virginia Laflin, Chapter AT/Tecumseh joined Chapter Eternal, recently. She will be missed. September will see two new residents moving into our home which will bring our resident count to 19 at that time.

UPCOMING: National Assisted-Living Week begins on Sunday, September 7, 2025. Our Home celebrates in many ways. A family picnic will launch the special week on September 7th. On Tuesday, our employees will be recognized for their years of service to our Home. A trip to the beautiful Cancer Garden in Humboldt will be a day trip for residents. Many games and activities are planned to celebrate the week.



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](https://www.biggivegage.org/organization/the%20home%20that%20love%20build)

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: The P.E.O. Home Board Nominating Committee is seeking applicants for a Board Director opening that needs to be filled at the Nebraska State Convention in June of 2026.

We do have focus areas for our nominating committee to

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consider in the way of skills, talents, and abilities of our directors. For this position, we are hoping to find an NE Sister with **technology, marketing, financial, and human relations specialties**. We do like representation from all over the state of Nebraska so that is a small consideration as well.

If interested, please complete a “**Willingness to Serve Form**” – on the Nebraska website: **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 application materials to complete and return to Jeanne Wicks. All candidates will be interviewed, and a decision will be made as to the selectee by the end of January 2026.

NEW WEBSITE and P.E.O. HOME PROGRAMS LAUNCHED SEPTEMBER 1, 2025:

--An updated and NEW P.E.O. Home website was launched on September 1, 2025.

The address is the same: <https://www.nebraskapeohome.org/>

As per usual, you will find donation forms, information about current Resident birthdays, photos of events and the Home itself, the current monthly HOME Newsletter Article (which will continue to be archived for a year), Adopt and Purposeful Life Program information, contact information, career/job openings and an application, etc.

--There will also be Home tour and Home Program information you can request for your chapter or other small group. If you have program questions, please contact Lisa Helmick, PSP, email preferred: lisapeocoxnet@yahoo.com

You can also call 402-669-4186 and she will return you 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.

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.



Our sincere thank you to all of you who support our Home with donations of items and financial donations. You are continuing to sustain The Home that Love Built.