



Nebraska State Chapter P.E.O. Newsletter

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

February 2026 • Issue #8

Notes from the President

Many of you have been sharing photos on social media from your Founders' Day Celebrations. I love to see the joy on everyone's faces. There were dinners, games, programs, and fun get togethers. Keep it up, building connections with each other makes for healthy chapters.



Besides all the snow and frigid weather, February also celebrates Valentine's Day. The main focus is on love of a special someone. What if we looked at it as a love for our sisters. I treasure all of the special women I have met as a result of this fabulous organization. Many of whom I would never have met without it!

P.E.O. is truly a gift. How have you shared it? There are so many ways!

Have you

- ★ *Given someone a ride to a meeting?*
- ★ *Sent a quick note in the mail, an email or a text, just to say, "Thinking of You?"*
- ★ *Taken a meal to a sister who just had surgery?*
- ★ *Invited a sister who went inactive to attend a fun event?*
- ★ *Sponsored a new member?*
- ★ *Said yes when the nominating committee asked you to serve as an officer or on a committee?*
- ★ *Paid your dues early? Think what an impact those funds have had over the years in the lives of so many.*

When you share the gift, you not only make a difference in someone's life but also your own! I am looking forward to reading each of the chapter's president's letters to hear more how the gift is being shared.

-Jean Matheny, NSC President

Notice to ALL Officers of Local Chapters

We are pleased to inform you that the Instructions to Officers of Local Chapters (IOLC) have been updated and are now available on the P.E.O. Hub. Please update the current copy in your President's book and make sure that all officers update their copy as well!

IOLC

Attention Reciprocity Treasurers & Presidents

NEW this year – IRS-RG 2026 for Reciprocities will be completed online in the same manner as the IRS-LCs.

As treasurer you will receive notification on March 1st when this available in the P.E.O. Hub. It will appear on your Dashboard as a To-Do Item.

Once the treasurer completes their work, it will move on to the RG president for approval.

They will need to be completed during the same March 1 – 10 timelines as the local chapter annual reports.

For questions on this please reach out to

**Jean Danley, Assistant Secretary
Treasure at
jmdnepeo@gmail.com
402-499-5247.**

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From the Treasurer's Heart



February is Heart Awareness Month! It focuses on heart-healthy lifestyles, including regular exercise and a balanced diet.

The local chapter is the Heart of P.E.O. and it has global influence. We want to focus on keeping the local chapter healthy and strong just like our bodies.

Things you can do:

1. Attend your local chapter meeting
2. Call a sister who has not been at a meeting in awhile
3. Give a sister a ride to a meeting
4. Mail a thinking of you card to any P.E.O sister
5. Learn something new about P.E.O. & share it
6. Sponsor a name for membership at your local chapter meeting

Key Observance: National Wear Red Day - Friday, February 6, 2026!

Wear red for both your heart and the heart of P.E.O.!!

Capri McGuire, Treasurer

A Few Words from the Secretary

Your chapter has had many years of growing great sisters—CELEBRATE THEM!! On the International website there are ways to honor your Golden Girls. Give her a certificate or a pin. Have someone make a cake or give her flowers to celebrate with her and let her know she is special! If you are giving them a pin check out the Sisterhood online store-International. Pin presentation scripts can be found by typing in the word scripts and clicking on the Pin Presentation Scripts.

Golden Girls are very special gifts in your chapters. The Honors Luncheon at the state convention on Saturday June 13th at noon is where Nebraska State Chapter will celebrate them. We will have a PowerPoint presentation with their pictures---If you send their pictures in to me BEFORE **MAY 1st** is the deadline. If you have members that are celebrating 55,60,65,70,75 or 80 Years of membership send me their pictures and names and chapter letters and I will include as many of them as I have room for on the PowerPoint BY **MAY 1st!!!** Please.

To assist chapters to remember their honored members we have created a link to access a list I compiled of those members celebrating these special milestones.

CLICK HERE: [Honors Luncheon](#) to look up your chapters' Golden Girls.

HONORED CHAPTERS! During the Honors Luncheon we will be honoring 9 of our local chapters:

Celebrating 125-year Chapters:

W, Blue Hill and X, McCook.

Celebrating 100 year Chapters:

DF, Stanton, DG, Ponca and DI, Humbolt

Celebrating 75-year Chapters:

FM, Beatrice and FL, Omaha.

Celebrating 50-year Chapters:

HF, Omaha and HE, Lincoln.

These chapters will gather with their members that have come to celebrate together at a table reserved for those that register.

Penni Bruning, Secretary

Reminder for Time of Remembrance

Photos

*If your chapter has lost a sister this year to Chapter Eternal, March 1st to February 28/29, 2025/2026, please send a photo so she will be included in the pictorial slides during the Time of Remembrance service held Sunday morning at convention in June. Deadline for submission is **MAY 1st**.*

Cindi Lamprecht, chair

cllamprecht@yahoo.com

Program for Continuing Education

- ★ Provides need-based grants to women whose education has been interrupted and who find it necessary to return to school to complete a degree or certification that will improve their marketable skills for employment to support themselves and/or their families
- ★ One-time grant to be used only for educational expenses (e.g., tuition, books, supplies, transportation, childcare while in class, required uniforms, testing fees and equipment/tools)
- ★ Maximum \$4,000 grant (lesser amounts may be awarded)



STAR Scholarship

- ★ Provides non-renewable \$2,500 scholarships for high-achieving high school graduating women to attend an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the U.S. or Canada in the next academic year \$12,500 scholarship
- ★ Scholarship based upon demonstrated need



STAR SCHOLARSHIP

International Peace Scholarship

- ★ Provides scholarships for international women students to pursue graduate study in the U.S. or Canada
- ★ Maximum \$12,500 scholarship
- ★ Scholarship based upon demonstrated need



INTERNATIONAL PEACE
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Educational Loan Fund

- ★ Loans available to qualified women who desire a higher education and are in need of financial assistance
- ★ Maximum loan is \$12,000 for a non-degree accredited program or an associate degree; \$15,000 for a bachelor's degree; \$20,000 for a master's degree; and \$25,000 for a doctoral degree.
- ★ Loan interest rate is 2%



EDUCATIONAL
LOAN FUND

- ★ Online programs at accredited schools will be considered
- ★ Internships or study abroad included in an accredited U.S. or Canadian degree program may be eligible.

P.E.O. Scholar Awards



- ★ Provides 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 •
- ★ Highly competitive \$25,000 award •
- ★ Provides non-renewable \$2,500 scholarships for high-achieving high school graduating women to attend an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the U.S. or Canada in the next academic year.



Cottey College

- ★ *Nationally ranked, fully accredited, independent, liberal arts and sciences college for women located in Nevada, Missouri, has been owned and supported by P.E.O. since 1927 and offers baccalaureate degrees in a variety of majors. Cottey College, a debt-free institution, welcomes women from around the world.*
- ★ *A focus on global awareness, leadership and social responsibility makes Cottey ideal for ambitious women.*

Tech Tidbit

To all local chapter corresponding secretaries:

As was mentioned in last month's Tech Tidbit, you are required to verify your chapter's membership roster by accessing the list on the International website. Here, in part, are the instructions sent to you on 1/1/26:

Between January 1 and February 24, local chapter corresponding secretaries must complete a review and update their chapter's membership roster as required by International Chapter. This report can be accessed by going to the P.E.O. Hub, then to the My Shortcuts section in the lower right quadrant and clicking on the Current Active Members Report. To complete your corresponding secretary duties:

- ★ Correct any discrepancies and complete any missing information on the Members tab of your chapter. (Learn how to make corrections by viewing the training video at <https://peo-portal.com/training/69a83d0b38264b66ad0149c49fdc2dff> on the International website)
- ★ On or before the review deadline, report to your chapter president that the review is complete, any necessary updates have been made and the records are correct. **(There is no form to complete—just let your president know that you completed your task!)**

It is most important that this task has been completed prior to the president and treasurer beginning their annual report work in March. Please make it a priority and complete it by the February 24th deadline.

Also, when attempting to use the P.E.O. Hub to its full capability, members need to use a computer. Phones and iPads limit the availability of all pages and reports.

Let me know if you have any questions!

Leann leanndrullinger@gmail.com

Local Chapter Officer Workshop (LCOW)



**April 18,
2026
10:00 am
CT**

The following chapters in the Northeast region will be receiving email invitations after April 1, 2026 to attend the annual LCOW zoom officer training: A, I, AL, AR, AZ, BE, BM, BQ, BU, CA, CC, CH, CM, CN, CQ, CT, CU, CX, DC, DE, DF, DG, DJ, DQ, DV, EA, EJ, EL, EM, EN, EO, EP, EW, FE, FJ, GS, GT, GX, HA, HG, HH, HU, HZ, ID, IO. While any chapter may send an officer to attend, only the Northeast region chapter will receive invitations. If someone from another chapter not on this list wishes to attend, please email the officer with your request. Following is a list of the state board officers with the office they will be training:

Jean Matheny- President & Vice President – jean.peo.nebraska@gmail.com
 Beth Anderson – Recording Secretary – beth4peo@gmail.com
 Amy Dusenbery – Corresponding Secretary - amydpeo@gmail.com
 Capri McGuire – Treasurer – capripeo@gmail.com
 Penni Bruning – Guard & Chaplain – pennijpeo@gmail.com

This is a wonderful opportunity to learn all about your new office. Plan to attend!

BYLAWS Deadline: February 28th 2026

Recording Secretaries and Local Chapter Bylaws Committee Chairs

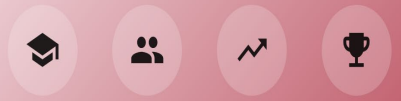
- ★ If you made any changes, send your bylaws and standing rule changes to Nebraska State Secretary Penni Bruning at: pennij.peo@gmail.com
- ★ IF you had no changes-just email me that you had “no bylaw changes” for your chapter.
- ★ PLEASE make sure your Chapter letters are on the email and write in the subject line “BYLAWS”.

Your Nebraska State Secretary, Penni Bruning



Lead Your Way

A benefit of P.E.O. is that it grows with you! You can get more involved or stay at the same pace. As you grow with P.E.O., you'll find your personal connection to the Sisterhood grows as well.



Present a Chapter Program

Share your special talent, talk about a hobby or choose a ready-to-go chapter program from the Resource Library.

Invite a Guest

You must be a P.E.O. for at least one year before you can sponsor someone for membership, but you can always invite guests to socials and other events.

Reach Out to Members

Make your sisters feel valued! Think of ways to help all members feel included.

Host Chapter Meetings

Work with another sister to ensure everything is ready for your local chapter meeting.



Winter 2026 Messaging (Every Sister is a VIP (Very Important P.E.O.))

February


- ★ Share sisterly love with chocolate, make valentine cards for sisters who can't

attend, and deliver flowers to sisters you haven't seen in a while. Wear red or pink to your February meeting.

- ★ Head outside, pick a color, and look for it everywhere you go for a fun, low-key activity that sparks conversation and discovery.
- ★ Walk on your favorite trail or city street. Care for your community while doing a small act of service by picking up litter or leaving kindness notes along your way.
- ★ Host a recipe swap and invite your inactive sisters and unaffiliate sisters in the area that may be looking for a new chapter and potential new sisters.

March

- ★ March 2nd is Dr. Seuss Day. Read some of your favorites or watch a Dr. Seuss movie together. Make sure to dress accordingly and bring themed snacks – green eggs and ham anyone?
- ★ Gather your sisters in-person or online and choose a music album to enjoy from start to finish and spend the time chatting, discussing lyrics, or simply enjoying the time together.
- ★ Meet outdoors to draw, write uplifting messages, and spread joy. A fun outdoor event for all ages and no “art skills” are necessary and wear your P.E.O. swag!

 PEO International ... X

If you have already paid your annual dues to your local chapter, THANK YOU! If not, there is still time! Please submit your dues to your local chapter treasurer before February 28 to maintain active status. Your membership in P.E.O. makes a difference. By simply paying your dues, you are contributing to our shared mission of motivating, educating and celebrating women.





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

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

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

February 2026

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

RESIDENT NEWS: Our resident count remains at 18 in our Home. At this writing, all are well, warm, and cozy during these dark, cloudy, and windy winter days.

ACTIVITIES: Resident activities continue during the winter months – though most are “inside” rather than out in the Nebraska winter weather. So many games have been played – Scrabble, Bridge, Bingo, and Dominos, to name a few. Exercises and yoga are offered many days of the week. A number of movies were watched on Sundays in January, including: *Castaway*, *Cheaper by the Dozen*, and *Carmelo*. Sometimes, videos about animals, or just “funny things” are shown. Relaxing “coffee breaks” happen at 3:00 or 3:30 every day – a nice way to socialize. Of course, Lawrence Welk continues to be a popular Saturday night tradition.

Mail gifts and cards to the address above and be sure to include the resident or staff member’s name in the address.



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

Contact Information

Nebraska P.E.O. Home Activities and Projects

Nebraska P.E.O. Home

413 North 5th Street

Beatrice, NE 68310-2902 Phone: 402-228-4208

www.nebraskapeohome.org

To Request a Program:

Contact Lisa Helmick

402-669-4186 lisapecoxnet@yahoo.com

To Participate in the Adopt Program:

Contact Nebraska P.E.O. Home Cindy Zajicek, Activity Director

402-228-4208 peohomeactivities@gmail.com

IMPORTANT TOUR UPDATES:

When planning for a tour, please be as accurate as possible on the number visiting. It is best to check back a week BEFORE your chapter tour to be sure all you requested has been arranged. For example, be sure the time of the tour is set. Please arrive on time – make a

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

phone call if you are going to be late.

--If you plan to have a chapter meeting, that needs to be known when arrangements are made – it does take time for employees to set up the chapter room.

--**Extremely important** that anyone who is not feeling well – sore throat, runny nose, cough, unusual fatigue, temperature, etc. should refrain from visiting at this time – or you WILL be required to wear a mask for the entire visit. Please know, that for most of the public, the covid virus is no more than a cold. However, for those in long-term care it means quarantining, dressing in gowns, masks, and face shields. Please be aware of these regulations to protect our Residents and staff.

YEARS OF P.E.O. MEMBERSHIP AT THE HOME: You likely noticed the photograph of the P.E.O. Christmas tree at our Home in last Home article in the state newsletter. Part of that tree were handmade ornaments (crafted by Board Director Jeanne Ross-Muhlbach) that had the names of each resident and the number of years she has been active in P.E.O. See those below:

Resident Name	Initiation Date	Years of Membership (2026)
Gayle D	Monday, October 3, 1966	60
Mary Alice	Wednesday, December 1, 1943	83
Virginia S	Tuesday, March 7, 1989	37
Phyllis L	Monday, March 4, 1963	63
Diane C	Tuesday, April 27, 1982	44
Donna S	Tuesday, April 26, 2005	21
Evalyn F	Monday, May 13, 2024	2
Maxine A	Thursday, January 5, 1950	76
Linda S	Monday, December 8, 2008	18
Karen K	Wednesday, March 6, 1974	52
Maggie B	Friday, February 5, 1971	55
Lynn W	Friday, March 5, 1971	55
Holly R	Friday, May 17, 1996	30

Total Resident Years of Membership	596
Total Staff Years: 15	Nine Director's Years: 319

TOTAL YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP AT OUR HOME = 930 Years of P.E.O. EXPERIENCE!

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. Check it out!



Heartfelt thanks 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.

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.

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