



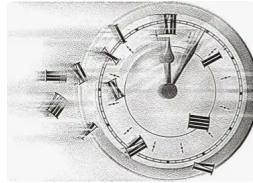
# Nebraska State Chapter P.E.O. Newsletter

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

March 2026 • Issue #9

## Notes from the President

Wow, March already! I know I have said it so many times, but time really does fly! Your Nebraska state board has been very busy, among other things, preparing for the annual state business meeting/convention coming up June 12-14, 2026. As in past years, it will once again be held at the Younes



South Convention Center in Kearney, NE. We met in Kearney during February for a two day meeting and then had a convention committee building walkthrough. As always, when we are together, we work hard and squeeze in a little play time checking out good places to eat.

Be sure to read the additional information for spring officer deadlines. Don't forget to fill out the [Chapter Information Form](#) (CIF) which is posted on the state website by April 15<sup>th</sup>.



There is so much information in this newsletter, please read it thoroughly and share it with every member of your chapter! It makes our jobs so much easier if every single sister would keep up with the information provided in this format.

Thank you to all the chapter presidents who have sent me their letter already (and those who will be sending soon). I believe, I have about half of them now. It is so fun to check my email and the mailbox everyday to see how many have arrived! The chapters in our state are incredible. Our sisters are so busy sharing their gifts with each other and other women. Keep up the good work!

*-Jean Matheny, NSC President*

### Reminder from the Nebraska Convention Hotels & Meals Coordinator

\***Elect** your chapter's Nebraska state convention delegate and alternate along with your chapter officers.

\***Report** your delegate and her alternate to International Chapter **at the same time** you report your new officers on the International website.

**THIS DOES NOT REGISTER YOUR DELEGATE/ALTERNATE FOR NEBRASKA STATE CONVENTION!**

Your delegate **MUST** sign up for the Nebraska state convention using the form provided on the sign-up site. If she is not listed with International, her form **will not** be accepted.

Nebraska state convention sign up will be opening in March. An email will be sent when the sign-up site is open.

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

Everyone who **attends or works at** any part of the convention **must** submit a form.

Chapter delegates have certain expenses covered by the state, but all P.E.O.s are welcome to attend our Nebraska State Convention.

Forms not submitted by the established deadline for any reason will be charged a \$40.00 late fee and you are responsible for the difference in room rate if block rooms are no longer available.

The Younes Center has housing and meal deadlines that we must meet. Therefore, we may not be able to accommodate forms that are submitted late.

### **Reminder for Convention 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 by May 23<sup>rd</sup> so she will be included in the pictorial slides during the Time of Remembrance service held Sunday morning at convention in June. Along with the photo include her name (spelled phonetically), chapter and town.*

Cindi Lamprecht, chair  
[lclamprecht@yahoo.com](mailto:lclamprecht@yahoo.com)

### **Tech Tidbit**

#### **Annual Report Time is Here!**

Once again, March 1<sup>st</sup> is upon us and we all know what that means—Annual Reports! The process has changed much over the years, especially when switching to an online report versus a paper form. The process and forms have been updated once again as International Chapter has moved to the P.E.O. Hub. Because of the changes, International Chapter has provided several great resources to assist the local chapter president and treasurer as they complete their work. The reports cannot be completed or submitted until March 1 but you can view the training videos ahead of time to get ready!

Here are the links to the training videos and other instructional resources! With the helps provided by International Chapter, there is no need to struggle! Take advantage of what has been prepared just for you! Please be attentive to the deadline of March 10 for completing the reports.

[Annual Reports Training Videos](#)

[Annual Reports Resources](#)

Let me know if you have any questions!

Leann [leanndrullinger@gmail.com](mailto:leanndrullinger@gmail.com)

### **Take Note! A Word from your NSC Secretary**

Did you know that by taking notes while attending a meeting uses 5 areas of your brain, versus just listening that uses one area of your brain? Well, if you didn't know that then take note of this!!

THANK you to all chapters that have sent in their bylaw changes into me. If your chapter has had no bylaw changes-I need to hear from you saying just that "No bylaw changes"

Please be so kind as to keep them coming to me ASAP!! [pennij.peo@gmail.com](mailto:pennij.peo@gmail.com)

I have received lots of pictures of your Golden Girls in your chapters-they are Your GIFTS in your chapters so let them shine at the Honors Luncheon at convention by sending their pictures to me

ASAP! [pennij.peo@gmail.com](mailto:pennij.peo@gmail.com)

I am enjoying hearing from all of you when you send in your bylaws OR your pictures of your Golden Girls—please don't wait—send them in now!

THANK -YOU very much!  
Penni Bruning NSC Secretary



## *The Gift of P.E.O.: ✨ Sisterhood ✨ Education ✨ Leadership*

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### Fundraising Ideas

St. Patrick's Day offers excellent opportunities for fundraising through themed events. These are excellent ways to raise funds to help support the P.E.O. Pots of Gold (Projects):

#### Key St. Patrick's Day Fundraising Ideas:



- **"Pot o' Gold" Raffle (Split the Pot)** A popular, high-margin option where the prize is half the ticket sales.
- **Green Bake Sale:** Sell green-frosted cupcakes, shamrock cookies.
- **Pot of Gold Guessing Game:** Put green jelly beans, green M&M's or chocolate gold coins in a jar and people pay to guess how many in the jar. The closest guess to the actual number wins a prize.
- **Green-Themed Raffle/Auction:** Raffle off Green themed baskets, Irish Whiskey or Restaurant Vouchers.
- **Green Dress-Down Day:** Charge a small donation (e.g., a "gold coin") for students or employees to wear green to school or work.
- **Candy Grams:** Sell notes attached to chocolate gold coins or green candies for peer-to-peer, school-based fundraising.
- **Irish Theme Events:** Host a themed quiz night, talent show, or a "Green Hat" contest with an entry fee.
- **Active Challenges:** Organize a St. Patrick's Day 5K run or walk, asking participants to secure sponsorships.

- **Unique "Sacrifice" Challenge:** Ask supporters to skip daily luxuries (like coffee) and donate the money saved, amplified through social media.

Capri McGuire EP,  
NSC Treasurer

### P.E.O. Projects – Like a Pot of Gold!



P.E.O. projects are like a pot of gold — Just as a pot of gold symbolizes a treasure trove of rewards, P.E.O. projects represent a wide array of opportunities — from immediate scholarships to long-term educational investments — that can transform women's lives. Each program is designed to help women overcome barriers, pursue their goals, and contribute to their communities.

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



★ **Educational Loan Fund (ELF)** – This fund provides low-interest rate loans to qualified women students to help them pursue higher education, much like a financial “pot of gold” for academic dreams.



★ **International Peace Scholarship Fund (IPS)** – This fund offers scholarships to women from other countries for graduate study in the U.S. or Canada, opening doors to global opportunities.



★ **Program for Continuing Education** – Provides need-based grants to women whose education has been interrupted, helping them return to school to improve employability.



★ **Scholar Awards (PSA)** – These merit-based awards support women pursuing doctoral degrees, offering substantial financial assistance for advanced study.



★ **Star Scholarship (STAR)** – Created in 2009, this program gives \$2500 scholarships to exceptional high school seniors to attend accredited post-secondary institutions in the U.S. or Canada.

★ **Cottey College** Liberal arts college for women in Nevada, Missouri, offering degrees worldwide. It's a long-term investment in women's education.



★ **P.E.O. Foundation** – Formed in 1961, it encourages tax-deductible giving to fund P.E.O.'s educational and charitable projects, ensuring the “gold” continues to flow to future generations.

If you're interested in P.E.O. projects, you can explore them on the official P.E.O. website or through your local chapter to learn more about eligibility and how to apply. **Capri McGuire EP, NSC Treasurer**

## Local Chapter Officer Workshop (LCOW)

April 18, 2026

10:00 am CT via ZOOM



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](mailto:jean.peo.nebraska@gmail.com)

Beth Anderson – Recording Secretary –

[beth4peo@gmail.com](mailto:beth4peo@gmail.com)

Amy Dusenbery – Corresponding Secretary -

[amydpeo@gmail.com](mailto:amydpeo@gmail.com)

Capri McGuire – Treasurer –

[capripeo@gmail.com](mailto:capripeo@gmail.com)

Penni Bruning – Guard & Chaplain –

[pennijpeo@gmail.com](mailto:pennijpeo@gmail.com)

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



## Developing a Membership with Vitality



A Sense of Belonging is a basic psychological need shared by all Human Beings.

- *A sense of belonging can affect a person's intellectual achievement and overall health*
- *Having a strong sense of belonging helps people deal with difficult life events.*
- *Those who don't belong say they feel isolated, lonely and excluded.*

Groups are also known as Communities. Five elements of a strong community:

1. *Identity-members share a common sense of self*
2. *Purpose-Members understand the group's mission*
3. *Objective-Members work toward specific, tangible goals*
4. *Interest/Passion-Members enjoy common activities or hobbies*
5. *Behavior-Members motivate each other*



Local chapters are healthier and more productive when members take an active role.

### Friendship

- *Increases sense of belonging*
- *Boosts happiness*
- *Reduces stress*
- *Improves self-worth*
- *Helps navigate life's difficult moments*

### Elements of a good friendship

- *Trust*
- *Loyalty*
- *Care and concern*
- *Connection*
- *Having fun together*



### Volunteering



- *Happier*
- *Increased sense of purpose*
- *Healthier*
- *Decreased risk for depression*
- *Hone new skills*
- *Gain experience*

### Volunteer Motivation

- *Positive feedback*
- *Rewards and recognition*
- *Appropriate training*
- *Opportunity to have fun*



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

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

Phone: 402-228-4208 Email: [nebraskapeohome@outlook.com](mailto:nebraskapeohome@outlook.com)  
<https://www.nebraskapeohome.org/>

### March 2026

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

**RESIDENT NEWS:** We mourn the death of resident Jeannine Kamen who passed away on February 9, 2026, at the age of 96. She had a very busy life and was dedicated to her family and the farm. Jeannine will be missed – such a sweet lady with a beautiful smile.

We welcome new resident Beth Maschmann who has been living in Beatrice. She had taught in the Hebron area. Her daughter, Kim Sheppard is a member of Chapter FB / Lincoln. Our resident count remains at 18 in our Home.

We are thankful that all has been busy at our Home, including the 105<sup>th</sup> birthday of Mary Newcomer on February 16<sup>th</sup>.

### THREE PROJECTS THAT ARE IN THE WORKS (or will be soon):

1. *Redecorating the private dining room in the basement – monetary donations, please*
2. *Work on the pergola will continue (when the weather cooperates)*
3. *Planting season is coming – seeds for green beans, carrots, tomatoes, radishes, kohlrabi, other types of lettuce –NO green peas. Herbs – NO mint of any kind (that is already available) rosemary, sage, basil, thyme, lemongrass.*

### NEW WAY TO DONATE-AMAZON WISH LIST

#### New opportunity for giving:

What an easy way for individuals or chapters to donate to our Home. Many of us shop on Amazon and have the “prime” account for free shipping.

--Order as usual for the Home BUT, you change the “ship to” address to: **Nebraska P.E.O. Home, 413 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Beatrice, NE 68310-2902**

**PLEASE** be sure you check that you want “Gift Tag” so you can add – FROM Chapter letters, and your name so we can send a thank you to you.

--This will certainly take the hassle out of purchasing and then having to deliver items OR pay any additional shipping.

### OUR CURRENT NEED FROM AMAZON.COM: Athena

#### **Collection Folding TV Tray**



**Couch Table 26 Inch Wide with 4 Height Adjustable, Portable Small Folding Table**

**Dinner Tray Laptop Table for Living Room Small Space for Eating on Bed Sofa Couch**

**\$29.99 each (the smaller folding tray table).** Twenty-five chapters could each send one – or two to meet our goal. Thank you in advance from our residents!

*You might remember during Covid, meals began being served in resident rooms. After Covid, the residents shared they very much enjoyed having breakfast in their rooms. Replacement tray tables are very needed at this point. A total of 25 would be very welcome!*

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

**Contact Information**  
**Nebraska P.E.O. Home Activities and Projects**

Nebraska P.E.O. Home  
413 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Beatrice, NE 68310-2902 Phone: 402-228-4208  
[www.nebraskapeohome.org](http://www.nebraskapeohome.org)

**REQUEST FOR P.E.O. HOME PROGRAM IN YOUR CHAPTER:**

Information and a "Request for a Program" form can be found on the Home website: [nebraskapeohome@outlook.com](mailto:nebraskapeohome@outlook.com)  
Contact Lisa Helmick if you have further questions –  
[lisapeocoxnet@yahoo.com](mailto:lisapeocoxnet@yahoo.com)



**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](mailto:nebraskapeohome@outlook.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 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.

**WEBSITE INFORMATION**

The monthly schedule can be found on the Home website: [nebraskapeohome@outlook.com](mailto:nebraskapeohome@outlook.com) You will also 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 one year), Adopt and Purposeful Life Program information, contact information, career/job openings and an application, etc. Check it out and share the news with your chapter, family, and friends.

**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.



Happy Birthday, NE, 03/01/1867  
159 years!



Cotley College



NE P.E.O. Home