

The TE★AN

August 2015

Texas State Chapter E-News Serving Our Texas Sisters Since 2005

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In This Issue

- ◆ President's Message
- ◆ Objects & Aims Reflection
- ◆ Membership Updates Due
- ◆ Membership Corner
- ◆ TSOFI News
- ◆ IPS Helps Many Women
- ◆ Fall Visitations Coming Up
- ◆ Dear Daisy Column

Living Our Objects & Aims

What runs through your mind when you recite the phrase *adherence to the qualities of faith, love, purity, justice and truth*? Are you reflecting these five in your everyday walk?

We know what the qualities mean but what does adherence mean?

Adherence means "sticking to" or "being faithful to," such as your adherence to your diet even when chocolate cake is around, or standing alone to uphold your beliefs. It also means steady devotion, support, allegiance, or attachment. This is definitely the definition of being a P.E.O. These five qualities together are the cornerstone to our way of life, both in the Sisterhood and in the world. Let your life shine with faith, love, purity, justice and truth.

BR

President's Message

Way to go Texas P.E.O. members!!! Betty Thomas, organizer, and I just returned from the LEAD Conference at P.E.O. International in Des Moines with a fistful of awards. This conference is held every year for state presidents and organizers. We were given wonderful tools to share on a variety of topics ranging from Goal Setting to Time Management. The following awards were presented to us, but the honor goes to all of you. Keep up the amazing work, we truly appreciate you and your efforts!

"Peak Performers" Award - positive membership growth in 2014 - 2015 year: **only 16 awards** were given in this category!

"You're A Shining Star" Award - positive membership growth for at least five consecutive years: **only 4 awards** were given in this category!!

"Making a Difference" Award - organizing at least one new chapter in 2014-2015: Texas **was 1 of 2 states** organizing 3 new chapters this past year!

"Shooting Star" Award - organized at least one chapter in four of the last five years: Texas has organized **14 new chapters** during this period which is more than double anyone else!

"Hooray" Award - no disbanded chapters in 2014-2015: Awesome!!!

"Achievement/Make a Difference (maple leaf)" Award- increase in number of Reinstatements: Texas received the gift of **151 reinstated members**, which is more than double when compared to the previous year!!!

It was really fun to run up and collect our bounty, and you know we did so loudly and with a Yee Haw or two! In addition to the conference, Betty and I took the Heritage Tour to Mt. Pleasant where P.E.O. was founded in 1869. If you ever have the chance to visit Iowa Wesleyan College, please do. The history and memorabilia are just breathtaking and not to be missed.

As always, I look forward to receiving your news on how your chapter is meeting our challenges this year.

Lovingly,

Karen Brooks 

August 10 Deadline for Updating Membership Details

Each chapter in Texas is updating the International Membership Database this year. Each chapter president or convention delegate received a listing of your active and inactive members and an instruction letter on how to update membership information. This information was given out at convention, and/or emailed to chapter presidents this summer. This note is a reminder to complete this task by August 10, 2015, and notify Nancy Easterly (nj.easterly@nsyt.com) that your chapter has filled in the blanks and made corrections. If your chapter has questions regarding this task, please contact Nancy. Thank you for helping us keep track of our sisters!



MEMBERSHIP CORNER



As Chairman of the Texas State Membership Committee, I have the privilege of looking at the yearbooks from every chapter across our great state. I enjoy looking at the themes presidents have chosen for the coming year, as well as the programs and socials.

I also look for the list of your non-resident members. I would like to encourage you to contact these members and find out if you could help them enhance their P.E.O. life by helping them to transfer to a chapter closer to their new location. If these sisters are still in Texas there are several avenues to help.

- ★ Find out if their information is on the State website unaffiliate list by checking the council list in their area.
- ★ If their information is not on the unaffiliate list, have your Corresponding Secretary send a **Notice of Member in Your Area** form to Betty Thomas, TSC Organizer, at bettythomaspeo@swbell.net.

If the sister is out of state, please send a Notice of Member in Your Area to the Organizer of that state and to chapter presidents in that sister's new town/city. Chapter presidents' contact information can be found on the International Website under Directory of Presidents.

If an unaffiliated sister needs help locating a chapter either in or out of state, have her contact me, Missy Kittner, missykittner@yahoo.com, and I will work with her to find a chapter.

Unaffiliate members who do not connect with a chapter in two years are more likely to fall out of the P.E.O. habit and eventually go inactive...something we all want to prevent. Help your non-resident and unaffiliate members establish a new connection in their new location. This new connection will allow them to enrich their lives and those of the new sisters, and will help them fulfill their lifelong P.E.O. vows.

TEXAS STAR OAKS FUND, INC.



The TSOFI Board thanks all of the P.E.O. chapters and individuals for their generosity during the past P.E.O. year. The board was able to award 31 grants totaling almost \$139,000 to Texans in need. These applicants have benefited greatly from your generosity, and the grants have helped to better their lives and lessen a financial burden.

TSOFI grant applicants must meet the following requirements:

- ★ Texas resident
- ★ US citizen
- ★ In dire financial need of an amount of money that cannot be obtained from another source
- ★ Without substantial savings, assets, or income

Typical grants are for dental and vision expenses, childcare, car repairs, medical expenses, and even educational assistance. Potential applicants can be found anywhere - church, hair salons, and non-profits where P.E.O. sisters serve, and more! Please keep your eyes and ears open! If you have any questions, please contact chairmantsofi@gmail.com.

Deana Sanders,
Vice-Chairman, Texas Star Oaks Fund, Inc.



P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship Fund (IPS)

Where the Dreams and Hopes of the world meet
the generosity of P.E.O.s

The International Peace Scholarship Fund, established in 1949, provides scholarships of up to \$10,000 for women from around the world for graduate study in the United States and Canada.

There are two ways your chapter can support an IPS student:

1. **Help international graduate students learn about IPS.** Visit the international graduate student office at a nearby college and/or post an IPS flyer on their bulletin board. If you know of a student who may qualify, refer her to the International website where she can complete an eligibility form between September 15th and December 15th.
2. **Become a Partners in Peace Chapter.** A chapter(s) who contributes at least \$500 and completes a Partners in Peace form will not only help to fund IPS scholarships, but will be able to partner with an IPS recipient. Chapters completing this process prior to March 1, 2016 will be assigned an IPS student for the 2016-17 academic year.

Since its inception, IPS has helped more than 6,000 women in 168 countries attain their educational goals. This year, the IPS Board of Trustees awarded 184 scholarships to women from 75 countries, in the amount of \$1,606,350.00. Information on IPS students studying in Texas will be available this fall.

Additional information and suggested chapter reports can be found on the P.E.O. International website. Don't miss the wonderful IPS video on the public IPS page!

Susan McSwain, TSC chairman, P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship Fund
(713) 856-8634 or srmcswain7@gmail.com



"Fostering Peace through Education"

Reminders! Fall Visitation 2015 Reminders!

Your executive board officers and the past presidents of Texas State Chapter are busily preparing to visit 61 chapters this fall. A list of the chapters to be visited may be found on the website, on the "Events" page. If your chapter will be visited, now is the time to help your President plan.

Local Chapter Presidents: Be sure to send the *Arrangements for Your Official Visit* form and the *Getting to Know Your Chapter* form back to your visiting officer no later than August 15.

Chapter Officers: Follow the instructions on the *Officers' Meeting Forms*. Final instructions will be sent to chapter presidents in September. Your visiting officer will have information to share with all of the officers of your chapter. Make plans now to be present at both the officers' meeting and the chapter meeting.

Chapter Members: Plan to be at this very important meeting. This is your time to meet with a representative of Texas State Chapter. Think of questions you may have and plan to take an active part in the meeting. This is a terrific time to give us your feedback, have your questions answered and enjoy the fellowship of being sisters. Your attendance will also show loving support for your chapter officers.

Of all the duties that your state officers perform during the year... *visiting chapters is the most fun!* We look forward to being in **YOUR** chapter soon!

Betty Thomas, Organizer, Texas State Chapter
bettythomaspeo@swbell.net



Have You Met Daisy Yet?

[Click Here to View Daisy's
Recent Monthly Columns](#)

Dear Daisy: *My Chapter would like to invite a P.E.O. to transfer to our chapter, but we don't have another business meeting scheduled until September. May we vote on inviting her during a Social Meeting, since we will have three of those this summer and most of our members attend the socials?*

Answer: No, I am afraid you may not conduct any business during a Social Meeting. Also, membership issues such as voting to extend an invitation to membership or an invitation to transfer may not be conducted at a Special Called Meeting. (*The list of business not to be conducted during a Special Called Meeting is found in the Presidents' Book, Appendix #2.*) **The vote to extend an invitation to transfer must be done during a regular business meeting.**

Please do invite the prospective transferring member to all of your summer socials where members will enjoy getting to know her.