



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

## **October 2024**

The month of September has been a busy, stressful one for your Alabama board! I broke my foot and ankle and am hobbling around in a 50-lb boot—or at least it *feels* that heavy! Cel has been suffering with back and neck pain and attends physical therapy on a regular basis. Paige has been crisscrossing the state for organizer visits—along with working her full-time job. Nancy, who is still getting past shoulder surgery, has been acclimating herself to our new accounting software (Whoopee!). Finally, Chery has been recovering from knee surgery, with PT, pain, and anesthesia-induced fuzzy brain. We are all trudging along, doing the best we can, and we're grateful for every good day, hour, and minute! Thank you for being so understanding when we (especially I) don't get right back to you when you email, or if we (*ahem*, I) run late with things like this newsletter. Personally, I am blessed to be a part of such a loving, forgiving, kind group of women like Alabama P.E.O. I couldn't wish for better sisters than all of you.

--Elaine

## **Welcome New Sisters**

We initiated three new sisters during the month of September! Chapter F, Birmingham, welcomes Gordan Lanier, and Chapter AB, Daphne, has two new sisters: Jamie Oquin and Gerry Whitney. Our family of sisters is growing!

## **In Sympathy**

Chapter AC, Tuscaloosa, lost one of its sisters, Kathryn Byrd, back in July. We all send our deepest sympathies.

If your chapter loses one of its sisters, don't forget to have the corresponding secretary enter that information with International using the Member Update form. Then, cor secs, please complete the Chapter Eternal Notification Form on the Alabama website at <https://members.peoalabama.org/local-chapters/forms/>. That form should be sent to the state secretary, Chery Williams, so that your sister can be remembered at our Celebration of Life at convention.

## **Interested in Serving?**

Do you think you would enjoy serving P.E.O. on the state level? We have many ways that you can do that. Most obviously, you could volunteer to serve on the state board. Likewise, each of our state committees is composed of sisters just like you! If you have any interest at all (and I hope you do!), please get in touch with our state vice president, Cel Bailey, at [celbailey.peo@gmail.com](mailto:celbailey.peo@gmail.com). Feel free to ask questions about duties to any current or former committee member or to anyone on the board. The time spent in service to our wonderful organization is well worth any effort or time it costs you. I wouldn't take anything for the time I have served on the ELF committee or on the state board. (EB)

## **Membership Ideas**

Our Regional Membership Representative, Becky Clines, recently shared some fun ways to get together with sisters while sharing the message of P.E.O. For example, host a fall photo shoot! Ask for a volunteer photographer who might share her talents and offer to take fun headshots to update your chapter yearbook. Or

get some sisters and friends together and head to a local pumpkin patch and have a picnic! Sit outside, enjoy the weather, and spend time with your sisters and guests (who will realize just how special it is to be a part of such a loving group of women!). Look for more suggestions in the future from the Membership Committee.

## Chapter Fundraisers

One of our most important activities during the P.E.O. year is to raise money for the philanthropy projects. Let's share those activities with other sisters in the state! The Alabama website hosts listings for fundraisers on its Marketplace page (<https://members.peoalabama.org/local-chapters/marketplace/>). Please share your announcements on this page by submitting information/flyers/etc. to [altechpeo@gmail.com](mailto:altechpeo@gmail.com) so that everyone can see what you're doing. If you'd like to share photos of your chapter sisters involved in those fundraising activities (for example, like v. p. Cel modeling clothes for Chapter AK's fashion show!!!), feel free to submit those as well. Our newest posting is a flyer for Chapter AH, who is selling Christmas greenery. I know where my wreaths are coming from this year!

## Cottey News

Our Cottey committee is always on the lookout for good ideas for our Cottey girls, Kuiper Naefe and Elena Adams. You will soon be receiving a schedule for sending gifts to them and to some international students. In the meantime, if you would like to remember the girls with a little goodie package, the girls report that they like brownie brittle, Oreos, chips and salsa, and Belvita blueberry breakfast bars, among other things. And remember that if you send a gift card (for Amazon, Walmart, Cottey Cash, etc.), please don't send more than \$25. Otherwise the girls' financial aid might be affected. It is YOU, our Alabama sisters, who assure these girls that they are loved and supported.

*Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted within me? Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God. Psalm 42:11*

*We hope for all of you joy and peace. Be grateful for all you have—good and not so good—for God is the health of our hearts.*

*Lovingly,  
Elaine, Cel, Paige, Nancy, and Chery*