



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

February 2025

Welcome New Sisters

It is always a pleasure to welcome new sisters to Alabama P.E.O.! Chapter T/Birmingham has gained, Dorothy Pegues; Chapter U/Decatur, Debra Baird, Diana Light, Barbra Summers, and Mary Neil; and Chapter AG/Foley, Janis Weaver, Kelli Weaver, and Amanda Goldsmith. We are so happy to have you, sisters!

In Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Chapter U/Decatur in the deaths of Linda Lewis and Dean Turney, and to Chapter AO/Montevallo in the loss of Gretchen Boling. May their stars shine brightly to guide us.

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.

Dues Reminder

Don't forget that dues for International go up \$5 with your February/March annual report. (In 2023, International raised its dues \$10, \$5 in 2024 and another \$5 in 2025, totaling \$36.) That \$5 increase should also be reflected in your chapter's bylaws. When you complete your annual report, each sister will automatically be assessed \$36 for international dues and \$15 for state dues. Please be sure that your chapter dues will cover that amount and that \$36 and \$15 are reflected in your chapter's bylaws. (If you need to amend your bylaws, the chapter must vote to approve the change.)

We are reminded by International that paying our annual dues is one of the best ways we can support P.E.O. and help provide life-changing educational opportunities for women! Even if you cannot participate in your chapter's activities, consider staying **active and paying your dues** nevertheless. Then, even if you cannot be a part of the chapter's events, your dues can go toward supporting the projects and helping women succeed.

State Goals and President's Letters

Has your chapter been trying to meet the goals of showing your love as "Sisters of the Heart"? Have you done something special for one of your non-participating members? Have you invited at least two friends or family members to join your chapter? Have you sponsored a woman for one of P.E.O.'s philanthropies? Is anyone in

your chapter serving on a state committee? Or will she agree to serve next year? All of these goals serve to share our love of each other and of P.E.O. to other women. In February/March, presidents, when you write your letter to the state president, please include how you have met those goals. I would love to share your good works at state convention! You may email them to me at elaine.bassett.peo@gmail.com or snail mail them to 108 Deerfield Drive, Troy, AL 36081. I can't wait to see how your chapter has flourished this year!

Annual Reports

Beginning March 1, presidents and treasurers may begin submitting annual reports. (Before that date, corresponding secretaries should verify names and addresses of all members of the chapter.) To help you prepare, International has posted several short videos to explain the process (<https://www.peointernational.org/resource/annual-report-training/>). In addition, if you need any assistance, contact your Board Buddy!

Ideas from International

Valentine's Day can be lonely for some. Connect with your sisters who cannot attend meetings by delivering a card and a sweet treat to their house.

Hold a Payment Party! Set up a fun event (virtual or in person) where members can gather, reconnect, and conveniently pay their dues in one go. Offer refreshments, games, or music to make it social.

International Membership

International is offering a new, different way to include more women in our chapter activities. Over 200 women in non-chartered territory all over the world have expressed an interest in P.E.O. Would you like to meet some of them and perhaps invite them to join your chapter? International can connect those women to local chapters in the U.S. and Canada; the local chapter must be able to offer virtual or hybrid meetings and perform a virtual Ceremony of Initiation should the chapter decide to invite one (or more) of these women to join. If you and your chapter are interested or have questions, please contact Jill Tallman at membership@peodsm.org.

Fundraiser for Convention!

Convention will be here before we know it! To help raise money to fund the convention, the state is offering tee shirts, mugs, and note cards for sale through CauseTeam! A flyer is attached at the end of the newsletter. Please visit the site and see if you would like to purchase one (or all!) of the items. Many thanks to Cel for setting up the fundraiser for the state.

Upcoming Conventions (and Delegates)

Start making your plans for **convention** April 25-26 in Tuscaloosa, AL. Convention is always a wonderful time for P.E.O.s to reconnect and meet new sisters. Remember to elect **two delegates** when you elect officers for the 2025-26 year. And **report those delegates (and officers)** on the International website as soon as they are elected/installed. If your chapter is entitled to attend **Convention of International Chapter (CIC)** in September (Chapters E, F, H, O, AF, AN), please elect that delegate in February as well. That CIC delegate must be or have been a delegate to annual Alabama convention. For questions, please contact your Board Buddy or any other member of the executive board.

The **registration portal for convention** registration will soon be posted on the Alabama website. Check peoalabama.org after February 12 to register for the convention, select your meals, and make your hotel reservation at Hotel Capstone.

This year's convention will feature a Daisy Patch filled with assorted star and daisy jewelry and other P.E.O. collectables. Beginning next month, we will feature some photos of the items available. Watch for it!

"Leading with love means living a life of honesty, loyalty, patience, and compassion."

--1 Corinthians 16:14

As we approach Valentine's Day, let all the hearts we see remind us that love is what holds us together and motivates us in all we do. We are all "Sisters of the Heart."

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



P.E.O. Alabama State Chapter Annual Fundraiser!



To help raise funds to offset the cost of convention, the Alabama P.E.O. chapter is hosting a CAUSETEAM fundraiser. During the month of February, we will offer a variety of tee shirts and in March, mugs and notecards, ALL emblazoned with our International P.E.O. mission statement.

Share the good works of our organization by wearing it, sipping from it, and writing on it!

Click the link below (while holding down the CTRL key) to access the items!

<https://www.causeteam.com/causepages/detail/peo-alabama>

(P.E.O. chapters support the educational and charitable funds of the P.E.O. Sisterhood but are not classified as charitable by the IRS. Therefore, donations to individual chapters do not meet the IRS requirements for a charitable income tax deduction. P.E.O. shall not be liable in any way for any goods and services supplied by third-party vendors or public establishments.)