

B.I.L. Initiation (Reviewed May, 2006)

Piano plays or group hums softly – Three Blind Mice

Guard enters leading blindfolded candidates. (*B.I.L. 's of new members were used.*)

Guard: May it please your exalted highness, here are \_\_\_\_\_ beautiful men who wish to be initiated into the honored Society of B.I.L... auxiliary to the renowned P.E.O. sisterhood

Leader: Prospective B.I.L.'s, this is a most solemn occasion. You should realize that this step is unbreakable. Please be brave. The candidates will receive the initiatory kiss from the guard. (*Guard dabs cheek of each with a warm damp washcloth.*) The guard will now remove the blindfold.

Gentlemen, because we have noted your deference toward women and your proper humility in their presence, we have unanimously voted to induct you into the circle of our noble family and to grant you the rights, privileges, duties, and responsibilities of such membership.

This society is ever and always subordinate to the P.E.O. Sisterhood and the individual members are at all times subject to the rigorous discipline of some member of our chapter. You will be expected at all times to come at her call and dance to her music, and in this as in all other walks of life, "They that dance must pay the fiddler."

You are now about to swear the solemn vows taken by every B.I.L. Place your right hand upon your left knee and your left hand upon the back of your neck. In this position of abject submission, so you hereby promise that when your beloved P.E.O. is passionately cleaning and scrubbing her house in preparation for the next chapter meeting that you will refrain from tracking, leaving fingerprints, or using the bathroom facilities? Also, that you will refrain from the vulgar remark, "When do we eat?" Answer "I do."

Do you also promise to give aid and assistance to any Brother B.I.L. in his duties of dishwiping, mopping, dusting, cooking, and baby sitting, even though the call for help comes in the middle of the night? The answer is "I do."

Lastly, do you promise your financial support to the Supreme and Lofty P.E.O. so far as may be reasonable and necessary and that you will not complain if said P.E.O. wife takes a few of your belongings to the annual rummage sale to be sold for charity? The answer is "I do."

Brothers, you may rise.

You will now be given, in a whisper, the meaning of the letters B I L (whispers to each candidate)

Just as those words represent one of the closest ties of human relationship, so are your colors symbolic and full of hidden meaning. They are BLACK and BLUE. Your flower is that lovely old fashioned blossom, the pigweed: dull in hue but sturdy and persistent in growth.

Doubtless you have heard many rumors as to the meaning of our letters P.E.O. Some may say that they stand for "Petticoats Excell Overalls." Others claim to have it on good authority that it is "\_\_\_\_\_." However, I shall now give you the true meaning, henceforth and hereafter to be spoken only in a whisper. It is "Pocket Emptiers Organization."

Guard: We now ask that the special P.E.O.s of these brothers come forward to invest them with their special emblems, reward them with a kiss, and escort them back to their seats.

Copied from Chapter BM, Holyoke, CO