

Membership Newsletter for Local P.E.O. Chapters

July 2020

MEMBERSHIP MOMENT – Continuing Connections

During these unprecedented times, each of us needs to lift up our sisters in whatever way we can. June's Hot Spot listed many suggestions of ways to stay connected. Have you put any of those ideas into action? Have you or your chapter thought of others ways to keep in touch with your sisters while we shelter in place? One more suggestion is to start a chapter chain letter. Write something uplifting and mail it to the sister whose name appears after yours in the chapter yearbook. Include an envelope for her to add her uplifting thought and mail it on to the next sister. Keep the chain going and don't forget to include your nonresident members!

Radiate Light **No Time Like the Present**

Perhaps you saw the following on the P.E.O. International Facebook page. It is an excerpt from an article in a series developed to radiate light during the last few months. Jane Attaway, Chapter KS, Illinois, wrote "P.E.O. has withstood many things through our 151 years and we have held strong. We have faced challenges and rose above them. The strength of our sisters is the members, and the strength of our members is the Sisterhood. Being part of this organization brings out the best in all of us. Every one of us has the power to make a difference in each other's lives. As you think about P.E.O. these next months, remember that your sisters believe in you, and you are making a difference in their lives, which makes a difference in our Sisterhood."

Jane has captured the essence of our Sisterhood when she refers to the strength of our members. We all value and strive to uphold the virtues that define our Sisterhood. Each one of us needs to use our P.E.O. virtues to conquer any fear that may be lingering in our hearts. Fear is defined as "a distressing emotion aroused by impending danger." Each one of us endured some degree of stress over the past few months as we learned of the danger inherently caused by the coronavirus pandemic. We must rely on our faith to overcome our personal anxieties; on love to help our sisters work through their concerns; and on truth as we look for the answers. Just as the CDC provides guidelines to help businesses reopen, rest assured that our International Chapter executive board will help each chapter as we reopen

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Local Chapter Membership Toolbox Spotlight If you've been thinking about those sisters whom you have not been able to see these last months, check out <u>P.E.O. Speed Talking Game</u> under Membership Activities. Change up the questions to include books your sister has read, how many puzzles were put together, her favorite new recipe, etc. Make it about what has happened in her life while social distancing. P.E.O. and return to in-person gatherings and meetings. What a joy it will be to see our sisters in person again!

Can you enumerate the many gifts of P.E.O. in your life? While we all are proud of our philanthropic achievements, our greatest gift to each other is the love we share – for each other and for our Sisterhood. There is the ease with which we transition after moving to a new area: because of our connection in P.E.O., new sisters can become new friends. Another gift we realize is when, after an absence or not participating in chapter life, we are welcomed with love into a meeting or social event. After a four month absence for all of us, let's make sure that the sister who was unable to attend meetings prior to the shut-down receives a special invitation to attend our first postquarantine meeting.

There really is no time like the present to show our love for each other.

