

The Hot Spot

Membership Newsletter for Local P.E.O. Chapters

November 2020

MEMBERSHIP MOMENT – Silver Linings

Now that we have had two months of being able to hold meetings again (in person following the guidelines, by video conference, or a hybrid of the two), we have seen many meetings which were successful and a few needing a little more practice. Here are some silver linings that are surfacing during this pandemic:

- Many members have become more technologically savvy.
- We have confirmed that with a little practice P.E.O.s can do almost anything!
- We have come up with interesting ways to fundraise while being socially distanced.
- Many sisters are willing to share a virtual program across chapter and even state, provincial or district boundaries.
- We have kept in touch with our sisters and shown them how much they mean to us.

Each of these is special and is a silver lining to the pandemic cloud!

New Members

Initiations in 2020-2021

As you identified potential sisters in October during the Let's Go Find the Others membership initiative, did you plan how to introduce them to your chapter sisters? We are certainly doing things a bit differently now with the safety guidelines we are following, but we must continue to initiate in order to keep our chapters vital. If your chapter is meeting by video conference or in a hybrid setting rather than in person, you can still hold social meetings and introduce your non-P.E.O. friends. You can also include them in your small interest groups.

Invite a woman who was introduced to your chapter via the Introduction of a Woman Who is Not a P.E.O. form to a virtual gathering. Having a small group of sisters on a virtual call to meet this referral is a good idea. Invite some of your project chairmen so they can share a little about the philanthropic aspects of our Sisterhood. Most importantly, welcome these women. You may find they are excited to be included in your virtual gatherings and, as you get to know them, you are excited to sponsor them for membership.

Giving you a “big picture” look at initiations across P.E.O., we initiated 429 women from March 1- 16, 2020. On March 17 we ceased all meetings and hence were not able to initiate. As of this writing, we have been able to initiate by affirmation for a month and a half. Our reported initiations are up to 1,972 – an increase of 1,543 new members. Way to go sisters!

Let us not forget how important preacceptance and postinitiation counseling are to ensure these new sisters learn about P.E.O. You can also direct new sisters to the [New Member Resources](#) on the International Chapter website for more information.

Initiation by Affirmation will continue until the International Chapter Executive Board lets us know that we can return to the Ceremony of Initiation. At that time, all the sisters who were initiated in your chapter by affirmation will have an official Ceremony of Initiation performed for them. Won't that be exciting?



Local Chapter Membership Toolbox Spotlight

The [Attendance Challenge](#) is a fun way for local chapters across the Sisterhood to increase attendance at a specific business or social meeting. Whatever month you choose to have your challenge this year, make sure that your sisters can join you virtually. Use [How to Zoom to Conduct Meetings](#) to help your sisters connect with you on your Virtual Attendance Challenge meeting.

