

February 13, 1991

Dear Cathy and Sisters in Chapter BL,

Our state officers have challenged us to "Brighten Our P.E.O. Dreams." Our dreams were realized when our own Cathy Barker was installed as State President! Cathy, we are so proud of you! You are indeed our BRIGHT P.E.O. DREAM-GIRL! We thank you for sharing your time and talents so generously.

One of my P.E.O. Dreams came true when Chapter BL sent me on the "Cottey Bus" to Nevada, MO to spend a weekend the end of March at Cottey College. After hearing about Cottey for years, it was like visiting an old friend! Thank you Chapter BL.

Muriel Filer, our '89-'90 Education Loan Fund recipient, was guest speaker for ELF at the State Convention in June. She joined us at our September meeting and gave us an up-date on her pursuit of her master's degree in counseling of cancer patients and their families.

Jodi Draper, our new Continuing Education recipient, also visited us in September. Jodi received a \$230 grant from International for her summer school tuition, and Chapter BL provided \$160 for her books. She will complete her Medical Technician's course in May. In December we delivered homemade Christmas cookies to 5 IPS students at UW and to Jodi.

Our Ways and Means Committee started a "Travel Trinket Raffle" this year. It has been fun and raised a little money! We also earn project money from a bridge group, the sale of 10-Bean Soup Mix, dishcloths and brooms as well as the Ways and Means Dinner held at Ann Nelson's in September. Consequently we were able to give \$700 to our projects. We are honoring Cathy with an additional \$500 gift to the P.E.O. Scholar Award. A memorial of \$500 has been sent to Cottey to purchase a bench in memory of Kristen Roethe.

Our theme "Our P.E.O. Sisters and Friends - At Home and Abroad" provided us with fascinating programs. From a first hand glimpse of Russia with Jane Secord, and Jan Gullickson's view of women in Japan to the eagles along the Wisconsin River Shores with Jean Clausen, our members shared their love of adventure. We were charmed by Beth Nelson's fascinating showing of the Pleasant Co. American Girl dolls and accessories. (Beth is Jan Gullickson's daughter.)

Hats off to Carol Wilson and the Membership Committee! Their efforts kept us all informed with our much appreciated NEWSLETTER. The Drop-In Luncheons celebrating the birthdays of the month continue to be popular. In September Jane Rogers, Lois Bowers and Mary Lo Hogan were in town and joined us. We are getting better acquainted with each other through the "Special

Sister" assignments. Sip & Sew, a small needlework group has started meeting once a month.

Vick Hugill, State Treasurer, was our official visitor for exemplification in November. She encouraged us to dream the best for P.E.O.

We celebrated Edna Riemen's 95th birthday with a party on December 19 at Blackhawk Country Club. Fourteen of her BL sisters joined her to celebrate. It was a very special time for Edna and for those who could be with her.

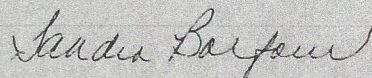
Highlights of the past year are the initiations of our new members. On April 26 we initiated Ann Vincent. On November 3 Rachel Nelson was initiated with her sister, Kathy Koester, serving as President. Rachel is the daughter of Ann Nelson, and the granddaughter of Florence Nordholm. Jennifer Roethe (cousin) and Harriet Nordholm (Aunt) were also in attendance, which made it a wonderful Family Affair.

We welcome two dimits, Jean Findley, DS, Rochester, Minnesota and Harriet Nordholm, CR, Coral Gables, Florida. We were sorry to lose Jennifer Roethe to CD, Cincinnati, Ohio and Marj Moore moved to Lincoln, Nebraska. We wish them well in their new homes! Karen Whitsitt, chose to become inactive as she has been unable to attend meetings. We now have 53 resident members and 9 non-resident members.

My thanks to each of you for your willing support the past two years. It has truly been a privilege to serve as President of Chapter BL.

We look forward to many Bright P.E.O. Dreams to be fulfilled at our June Convention in Madison. Our chapter members are privileged to participate in this special event. Good luck, Cathy! We are behind you all the way!

Lovingly in P.E.O.,



Sandra Balfour, President