

February 1997

Dear Karen and Sisters of Chapter BL:

My term as president of Chapter BL is ending and I'd like to report we are alive and well.

Our theme this year is "Radiate All Light Possible". We have had some excellent programs such as Judge Pekowsky informing us about "Kids in Trouble" and what happens in court. A field trip to Marilyn Sachtjens gardens in May was a study in nature. Cindy Alvarez from Chapter DH told us what it is like to be the wife of U.W. football coach, Barry. In January our Judy Christenson's slides took us to Japan where she had spent several months. More good programs to come in the ensuing months.

Last years president's letter told you about Sally Ross's name being proposed for a P.E.O. Scholar Award. Well, Sally did receive the \$6,000 award and we are all very proud of her. She did a program in September telling us about her study which is "Film From The Flapper Era". Chapter BL applied and received a \$1,278 grant from Continuing Education for Vicki Rybaski, who is in the dietetic technician program at MATC. It was presented to her at one of our luncheons so we all got to meet her. We are proud of Vicki also. Once again Chapter BL joined with Chapter BC to sponsor a designated IPS Student. Her name is Yoon Nah from Korea. We have all met her and her parents at a meeting in January where she informed us about her study. Jan Wilson, our ELF recipient, has completed her studies and is repaying her loan.

Our Ways and Means projects raised money this year by selling Current Magazine items but our big money maker was our "Make It, Bake It, Sew It, or Grow It" auction. We raised over \$750.00 at that auction, but then does that surprise you when a pumpkin pie went for \$26.00? It was a fun time as well as profitable. We are also still selling dish cloths, brooms, photo note cards, and cook books. Bridge and our B&B also contribute to the coffers. We have raised a total of \$1,800 and have given \$100.00 to Cottey College, \$100.00 to IPS, \$100.00 to Continuing Education, \$100.00 to ELF, \$100.00 to P.E.O. Scholar Award, \$100.00 to HELP and \$100.00 to Wis. Cottey Scholarship Fund. We will again share sponsorship of an IPS designated scholar with Chapter BC; our share being \$250.00.

Our Social Committee planned a successful BIL dinner party at Nakoma CC in November. They also planned the Christmas brunch at Blackhawk CC which

was lovely. The brunch was held on a Saturday so the working girls could attend and we had 34 members present and 2 guests. Needless to say it was great. Drop-in luncheons continue once a month.

Chapter BL initiated Donna Suby in May. Nancy Hertel came to us from Chapter BC in Waverly, Iowa by dimit. We are delighted to have them in our chapter. Janice Walden who has been inactive, reactivated her membership and we are so glad she is with us again. A farewell tea was given to long time member, Mildred Wedemeyer, who moved to Huntsville, Alabama in July to an assisted living home and to be near her daughter. We do miss her. In November a bride-to-be tea was given in honor of Rachel Nelson, daughter of Ann Nelson. Many courtesies were extended to sisters who were ill during this past year, and to those who lost dear ones. We are a chapter that cares.

At state convention in June, Connie Todd was honored as a 60 year member and Fran Kingery a 50 year member. A large delegation from Chapter BL was there to help them celebrate.

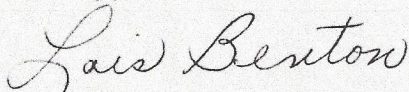
Chapter BL has a membership of 56 resident members, 12 non-resident members and 8 inactive members.

Our goal this year is to have at least 50% attendance and so far we have attained that goal. However, with the flight of the snow birds during the cold months, we may not do as well. We do keep in touch with newsletters.

I would like to thank my officers and sisters for their hard work, their love and their support. The honor you have bestowed upon me as president for the past two years has been a growing experience and a rewarding one and I very much appreciate the confidence you have had in me. Thank you.

This is our year in review.

Lovingly in P.E.O.



Lois Benton, President