

Chapter I Organization

During the year 1951-52 a group of unaffiliates of the PEO Sisterhood met together with the view of forming a new PEO Chapter in Madison. We had our first meeting on November 20, 1951. We met again in December. The State Organizer, Beulah Haugen, was present and advised us on procedure. On December 14 we had a Christmas party at the home of Betty Rennebohm with husbands present. We continued to meet regularly twice every month. Beulah met with us again in February. Plans began to go forward for the organization of the new chapter. The reciprocity board of Madison helped. Marian Peterson of Chapter AX rendered valuable assistance.

May 3, 1952 was Organization Day. We met in the Lorraine Hotel for the installation ceremony and luncheon. All state officers except one were present and more than one hundred Madison members of the PEO Sisterhood attended. The new chapter consisted of thirteen dimits and four initiates. The dimits were--

Marian Blair DT Iowa
Joyce Bull HO Iowa
Marian Caldwell AO Wisconsin
Dorothy Cole AR Wisconsin
Mary Hobba U Ohio
Doris Johnston PS South Dakota
Mary Mason E Pennsylvania
May Rarick EC Kansas
Betty Rennebohm P Washington
Jeannette Thomas KF Iowa
Dorothy Vickerstaff HZ Missouri
June Larson CO Iowa
Jane Wilson AT Kansas

The initiates were--

Gail Frazier
Jean Sabin
Elizabeth Ross
Beverly Serns

Before leaving the hotel the following officers were elected:

President	Betty Rennebohm
Vice-president	Joyce Bull
Recording Secretary	Dorothy Cole
Corresponding Sec'y	Dorothy Vickerstaff
Treasurer	Jeannette Thomas
Chaplain	Mary Mason
Guard	Doris Johnston

Chapter II The First Year--1952-53

The State Convention met in La Crosse in June. Mary Mason and Jeannette Thomas were delegates. We were very proud to receive our charter at the convention.

We were sorry to have Joyce Bull, our vice-president, move from Madison in May. Carolyn Dauner came into our chapter in May. She was elected vice-president to fill the vacancy created by Joyce's resignation. She came to us from Chapter IR, Iowa. Mary Heine was initiated in October. She had planned to be a charter member but could not be present at our May meeting. Later Frances Bright came into the chapter from Chapter AX, Madison.

Our program committee prepared an interesting program for the first year. They made our booklet thus eliminating the expense of having them printed. Our Christmas auction netted \$33.50. Our first BIL party was held at the home of Betty Rennebohm.

In February occurred our first wedding--that of Jean Sabin and James Anders Pearce. They will make their home in Milwaukee.

Chapter III Second Year--1953-54

Betty Rennebohm was again elected president. The State convention met in Milwaukee. Delegates were Betty Rennebohm and Car-

obyn Dauner. Chapter BL was given the honor of exemplifying the model meeting. The following item appeared in the Record:

"The model meeting was exemplified in true PEO spirit and perfection of detail by an infant chapter BL, Madison, only one year old in PEO. The charming young president, Betty Rennebohm, presided with ease and grace. She reflected the spirit and ability of the entire chapter."

Guest night was at the home of Betty Rennebohm on November 12. Our auction in December netted \$40.00. We had a party for BILs in January at the home of Betty Rennebohm. In June we had a family picnic. We made our first financial investment during this year. We bought a \$25.00 United States Savings Bond.

The following members moved from Madison during the year:

Beverly Serns
Dorothy Cole
Carolyn Dauner
Dorothy Vickerstaff

The following came into the chapter by initiation:

Mary Alice Rarick
Elizabeth Land
Mary Justice
Nancy Ragatz
Edna Rieman
Jane Secord

Jeannette Thomas was elected president in March.

Chapter IV Third Year 1954-55

The State Convention met in Menominee. The delegates were Jeannette Thomas and Mary Heine.

During the year two of our members became brides. Marian

Caldwell married Harold Mason. They left Madison for a honeymoon trip to Hawaii after which they made their home in California. Doris Johnston married William Riemen. After a honeymoon trip through Europe and the Middle East they returned to Madison to be with us for a year. Our charter member, Mary Mason, left Madison, going to California to make her home near Harold and Marian. Mary rendered valuable service in helping to organize our chapter--we were sorry to have her leave.

Our guest night was held at the home of Gail Frazier in November. The BIL party was held at the home of Jeannette Thomas. It was a box supper affair and the boxes were sold at auction. Early in the year, under the splendid leadership of our president Jeannette Thomas, we launched a new fund raising project--the sale of peanut crunch and mints. It turned out to be quite a money raiser. The December bazaar netted \$59.00. We bought another \$50.00 United States Savings Bond.

We lost three members during the year:

Carolyn Dauner to chapter P, New York
Beverly Serns to Chapter AD, New Mexico
Jean Pearce to Chapter AS, Wisconsin

We received by dimit:

Alicia Dittberner from Chapter U, Wisconsin
Zo Kussow from Chapter X, Wisconsin
Carol Wilson from Chapter AN, Wisconsin
Patricia Ivie from EE, Iowa

We received by initiation:

Marjorie Hibner
Jean Clausen
Virginia Malmquist

Jeannette was again elected president in March.

Chapter V Fourth Year 1955-56

The state convention met in Rhinelander. The delegates were Jeannette Thomas and Virginia Malmquist. Beulah Haugen, State President presided. This was of interest to Chapter BL because Beulah organized our chapter.

In the late summer we were sorry to lose Virginia Malmquist. The Malmquists moved to Milwaukee.

Guest night in November at the home of Betty Rennebohm was combined with our annual Bazaar which netted \$120.00. The BIL party was in January at the home of Jeannette Thomas. At the close of the year we bought a \$150.00 United States Savings Bond.

During the year we received by initiation:

Martha Reynolds
Jean Rennebohm

We received by dimit:

Mildred Wedemeyer from AZ, Wisconsin
Joanne Hedlin from TN North Dakota
Hazel Weeden from X Wisconsin

Dimits were granted to:

Mary Mason to FG, California
Marian Caldwell Mason to a newly formed chapter in California
Virginia Malmquist to AH, Wisconsin

Marian Caldwell Mason was elected president of the new chapter in California.

In March Betty Land was elected president.

Chapter VI Fifth Year 1956-57

The state convention met in Eau Claire. Betty Land and Mary Justice were delegates. They brought back a fine report.

In December Alicia Dittberner left for New York where her husband has rejoined the army. We are sorry to have her leave us and will miss her at our meetings. We will also miss Diane Halverson who has left Madison for a residence in New York. We were glad to have the Malmquist family return to Madison to make their home.

Our Christmas bazaar was held in November and netted us \$99.65. Guest night was held in the home of Betty Rennejohn. Fran Bright and Jeannette Thomas gave a humorous program--a take-off on NBC's Monitor programs. We had our BIL party at the home of Betty Land.

During the year we received by dimit:

Ruth Thomas from GB, Missouri
Dianne Halverson from BD, Wisconsin
Virginia Malmquist from AH, Wisconsin
Barbara Cook from AN, Wisconsin
Charlotte King from AG, Wisconsin

By initiation:

Elizabeth Sarig
Benevieve Busse

A dimit was granted to:

Doris Johnston Riemen to Chapter Q, New Jersey
Dorothy Cole to a newly formed chapter in Toronto, Canada

During the year we purchased lovely white robes for our officers. These robes have added beauty and dignity to our initiation ceremony. We bought a \$50.00 United States Savings Bond which makes a total of \$275.00 invested in bonds.

Chapter VII Conclusion

Our Philanthropic contributions have not been as large as we might wish. We contribute to the International Scholarship Fund, the PEO Home Fund, and the Cottey College Chapel Fund. Since we are a new chapter we have not accumulated much money and knowing that we would soon have to contribute to entertaining the State Chapter, we have been saving to that end.

We observe Peace Participation in our programs, devote a program to Cottey College. At one of our meetings two Cottey College students gave that program--this proved a very interesting and instructive program and made Cottey seem very real to us.

We have enrolled forty-three Sisters during our first five years. We have granted eight dimitts to other chapters. One withdrew for religious reasons. None of our members has passed on to Chapter Eternal.

On May 3rd, 1957, we celebrated our fifth birthday with a tea at the home of our president, Betty Land. Jeannette Thomas, Virginia Malmquist, and Betty Sarig were assistant hostesses. Betty Rennebohm and Jeannette, former presidents, poured. Members of Chapter AX, who assisted in our organization, and members of the reciprocity board of Madison were guests.

May Parick - historian