

February 9, 1999

Dear Barbara and Sisters in Chapter BL,

It is with mixed feelings that I am writing my final President's letter. How quickly the 2 years have gone. The joy of working with this wonderful group of women, the many kindnesses shared, the expressions of love exhibited and the willingness to cooperate will be lasting memories for me. I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience as President of BL.

Chapter BL's membership consists of 56 members, 11 non-resident members and 8 inactive members. We were so very pleased to initiate Jean Nordlund into our chapter this year. She is a delightful addition and already an asset to our group. With the annual departure of many of our Snowbirds increasing, our goal is to add to BL's membership in 1999-2000. During our state officer's visit in November, Norma Walley commended our chapter on its use of procedures and on its project contributions. Her visit was very positive and educational for the officers as well as the members.

Our 1998-99 project contributions totaled \$1600.00. \$150.00 each was given to IPS, ELF, Cottey College, HELP Fund and WIS Cottey Scholar. Continuing Education and the PEO Scholar Award each received \$300.00. Chapter BL has shared the sponsorship of an IPS Designated Scholar with Chapter BC. This year our scholar is a lovely young woman from Korea who is studying at the University. It is exciting to personally meet the scholarship recipients and to realize what a difference our PEO funds can make in their lives.

We truly are sisters in heart and in spirit, characteristics which are continually in evidence in our chapter through the members various committee accomplishments. Our Courtesy Committee has kept us aware of the concerns of our sisters. They deliver flowers, send notes and have personal visits with our sisters in time of need. Our Ways and Means Committee has enriched our treasury by the sale of brooms, dishcloths, cards and with a box lunch fundraiser. Additional funds have been added by the September dinner, our 2x2 Party, the Madison PEO Fall Boutique, the BL Book Group book sale, the Bridge players and our B&B Program. Through these many efforts, over \$1750.00 has been raised this year for project support. Our 1999 PEO State Convention Committee duties have been ably filled by Lois Benton, serving as treasurer and Ann Nelson chairing the Saturday evening dinner arrangements.

We have indeed grown in knowledge and in culture through our wonderful programs. This year's theme, "Tapestries of Our Lives", has been presented to us in a variety of ways. Mary Lou Hogan discussed the history of early music and entertained us on her harpsichord. Middle Eastern travel adventures were shared by Jane Stark and Kay Lindblade discussed her unique experiences as chair of Very Special Arts Wisconsin. A joint Christmas brunch with Chapter BC in December was very special and a wonderful opportunity to get to know our Madison sisters.

In closing, I have loved serving as your president. Thank you so very much for the privilege and for being so supportive. The relationships we sisters share with one another continue to grow and strengthen in true PEO fashion. As I turn the gavel over to Nancy, I wish her and all the members of BL the very best.

Lovingly in PEO,

Audrey Dybdahl  
Chapter BL