

FIVE YEAR HISTORY  
Chapter BL, Madison, Wisconsin  
1977-1982

1977-1978. Chapter BL's 25th anniversary was celebrated with a birthday party in March, reviewing our history and honoring our charter members and early initiates. Under the capable leadership of president Martha Reynolds, our welfare projects committee, social committee, and the cooperation of all our members, Chapter BL was able to participate in pleasant fund raising events which enabled us to support our PEO projects to the tune of \$400 and to begin to set aside money for the 1982 convention.

Our theme for the year "Lyrics and Learning" brought us programs of history, education, travel, and nature.

We were saddened by the death of Dorothy Wimberley and by the loss of two non-resident members who asked to become inactive. We welcomed Judith Dana by initiation, with state organizer Dorothy Mann being present to make the initiation special. Our resident membership is now 48, with 6 non-resident members.

1978-1979. President Jane Stark presided at the first meeting of the fall following a dinner put on by the Welfare Committee. Money from this and other projects--a Harvest Sale, the bridge group, "Sears Ladies", and of course the sale of brooms and dishclothes--enabled us to contribute \$365 to PEO projects.

Our membership is 48 active members and 6 non-resident. Ruth Thomas dimited to Des Moines, Iowa, and Mariclàire Thomas became non-resident in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Our program theme was "Trees" this year and Satellite luncheons held before afternoon meetings proved to be popular. We greeted former member Sally Fleming at a coffee during her visit to Madison. Two of our members graduated--Paula King from U.W.-Madison and Mariclaire Thomas from Law School at U. of Nebraska.

Chapter BL took part in organizing new Madison Chapter CW.  
1979-1980. The second year of Jane Stark's presidency was highlighted by the initiation on May 30, 1979, of three daughters, Cindy Jennings, Susan Koenig, and Sara Bangsberg, at a special meeting followed by a brunch. Another daughter, Laurie Ross,



was presented a gift for her upcoming marriage.

Four members were added by dimit: Gayle Wilson, Jean Schaeffer, Sandra Balfour, and Mary King. By dimit we lost Mariclaire Thomas to Lincoln, Nebraska, and Paula King to PV, California. Our active chapter now totals 51. We were sad to hear of the death of former member Mary Justice and to see Phyllis Norem move to Lake Tahoe.

Our Ways and Means Committee (formerly Welfare) started the year with a dinner, exemplifying the theme "These Are a Few of My Favorite Things." A successful paper sale as well as the usual brooms and dishclothes and our bridge marathon filled our coffers and allowed us to give to PEO projects.

A June fish boil at the home of Ann and Dave Nelson was our first BIL event in some time and was most successful. Our Social Committee treated us to a Soup Supper and we had salad luncheons preceding our afternoon meetings.

1980-1981. The theme for this year is "There is a Right Time for Everything". President Cathy Barker reports a membership stable in number with a few changes in faces. Marian Rice was welcomed as a dimit. Two daughters, Helen Sivertson (soon to add Drawbert to her name) and Karen Whitsitt, were initiated. Four members found PEO homes in other communities and dimited: Sally Fleming to Bethesda, Md., Ida Crain to Ft. Myers, Fla., Helen Sivertson to Lexington, Ky., and Phyllis Norem to Incline Village, where she recommended a charter list for a new chapter.

We were sad to lose two of our dear members to Chapter Eternal: Hazel Weeden, mother of Lois Bowers, and Emma Kresge, Jane Secord's mother.

We presented Mary Ann Clark with a check for \$400 from PEO International Chapter and \$200 from our chapter to help her continue her education at U.W. - Madison.

Again we had a successful BIL fish boil at the home of Ann and Dave Nelson.

Chapter BL is busy with the planning of the 1982 State Convention to be held in Madison. Past presidents Martha Reynolds



and Florence Nordholm are serving as co-chairmen of the convention, with Carol Wilson as convention treasurer.

1981-1982. The theme "...And the Greatest of These is Love was emphasized in the second year of Cathy Barker's presidency. Our membership changed just slightly, with 47 active members and 9 non-resident. We will miss Gayle Wilson who moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Cathy Wilson, daughter-in-law of our sister, Carol Wilson, was given \$350 from a PEO International Chapter grant, as well as \$200 from BL to help her with her continuing education. The Chapter House Fund gave \$100 to the Stoughton Library to purchase large print books at the request of Bess Weber, who made the presentation.

Patty Hirsch, daughter of Ruth, was our guest at a luncheon preceding her marriage to Doug Malmquist, son of Virginia.

Florence Nordholm and Martha Reynolds, co-chairmen, and Carol Wilson, treasurer, continue to work hard on plans for the 1982 Wisconsin State PEO Convention, in which we shall all be involved.

And thus passes another five years of friendship and love, learning and living and giving in that very special Chapter BL, Madison, Wisconsin, in that very special organization, PEO.

*Jo Kussow*  
*Historian*