

February 14, 1990

Dear Marvel and Sisters in Chapter BL,

It has been a real privilege to serve as president of Chapter BL this past year. "PEO Spirit" is at a high! Chapter BL has experienced many highlights through our theme "Sharing Objects and Aims."

Muriel Filer, our ELF recipient, joined us at our September meeting and shared her goals with us. She is an oncology nurse at UW Hospital working on her Master's degree in Counseling Psychology. The \$3500 ELF loan will help her while she is doing a practicum at Hospice, a requirement for her degree. Our chapter provided an additional \$300 for her books.

Other project programs have included, Pat Fischbeck, area Cottey chair, who gave us a lively program on Cottey including a game of Win, Lose or Draw. Faranah Seifoldini, an IPS student from Iran visited us in March. The week before Christmas we delivered homemade Christmas cookies to the IPS students at UW. We welcomed Jeanne Garnett, V, who gave us the report of International Convention in November.

Our active Ways and Means Committee, chaired by Jan Gullickson and Carolyn White, have been busy. In August Chapter BL held the second annual Trash and Treasure Sale in Connie Todd's garage. With near-total chapter participation it was a huge success! We also earn project money from a bridge group and the sale of 10-bean soup mix, brooms and dishcloths as well as the Ways and Means Dinner held at Stephany Halverson's in September. Consequently we were able to give \$605 to our projects. Of this amount, \$205 was given to the Wisconsin Cottey Scholarship in memory of Judy Dana.

With so much going on in our chapter, we needed a good method of communication. We started a monthly NEWSLETTER (Idea from convention) that has been enthusiastically received. The other Bonus Idea from convention has been the inception of a Membership Committee. Assigning "Special Sisters" was the first item on the agenda of this new committee. Second, was to initiate the "Drop-In Luncheons" monthly at a local restaurant. Any where from three to 17 of us have met to celebrate birthdays and get better acquainted.

A Farewell Tea in Trudy Bangsberg's honor before her move to her cottage in the Northwoods was hosted by Jane Stark. Our summer BIL Party planned by the Social Committee was a fantastic "Fish Boil" at the home of Ann and David Nelson. Ron Halverson and the BIL's did a hilarious "model meeting" for our enjoyment!

On January 24, we were saddened by the sudden death of Kristen Roethe. Kristen was the daughter of Florence Nordholm and the sister of Ann Nelson. She touched us all with her courage in facing her lifelong diabetes.

We have initiated four new members. On April 26 we initiated Judy McClain and Ellen Smithback, daughter of Audrey Dybdahl. On September 23 we initiated Jennifer Roethe, daughter of Kristen Roethe and granddaughter of Florence Nordholm. On January 6 we initiated Carol Rau, daughter of Virginia Malmquist. Jean Olsen joined us by dimit from AI, Grand Forks, North Dakota. We were sorry to lose Karen Shotwell to U, Logan, Utah and Laura Secord to BL, St. Paul, MN. We wish them well in their new PEO homes! We now have 52 resident members and 8 non-resident members.

The chapter presented PEO baby spoons to Janice Walden, a daughter born in July and to Ellen Smithback, a daughter born in December.

Many Chapter BL members have suffered major surgery, illness, broken bones and loss of loved ones this year. As difficult as these are, I feel a new caring and closeness among us...and a new meaning "to expressing a loving concern for each sister."

Lovingly in P.E.O.,

*Sandra Balfour*

Sandra Balfour, President