

## **Guide to the**

### **P.E.O., CHAPTER CN RECORDS 1951-2006**

**2.75 linear ft.**

**Accession Numbers: 0304-03; 0304-222; 1314-70; and 1415-61  
Collection Number: 38**

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Revised by Kevin Kendro  
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**CITATION: P.E.O., Chapter CN Records, 1951-2006  
Collection 38, Box number, Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.**

### **Historical Sketch**

P.E.O., Chapter CN was organized on March 8, 1951, in Irving, Texas. The charter members of the chapter were Hazel Elliott, Martha Faulds, Janis Gaines, Clara Gibbs, Juliette Gratke, Madelon Grubbs, Arline Harkrider, Thelma McCreight, Juliette Nichols, Frieda Snell, Daisy Wilson, Fern Varvel, and Frances Young. The first president of the chapter was Juliette Gratke, well known for her work as the director of the Dallas Society for Crippled Children's Cerebral Palsy Treatment Center.

The members agreed to meet on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at eight o'clock p.m., October first to June first. That was later amended in 1968 to meeting from September 15 to June 1, then changed two years later to meeting from September 1 to June 1. Annual dues started at \$8.35 in 1951 and were raised to \$28 by 2003. In 1963, Chapter CN sponsored the organization of another P.E.O. chapter in Irving, and Chapter DV was established.

Iowa Wesleyan College in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, one of the first coeducational universities in the United States, was the birthplace of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. Established on January 21, 1869, the organization was formed by seven women attending the university.

P.E.O. began as a small campus society and was the second sorority organized in America. Sometime after establishing the organization, the group decided to make itself independent of the university. As an independent group, P.E.O. grew into a worldwide organization devoted to providing higher education for women. Membership is by invitation. The Texas state chapter of P.E.O. was organized in 1928.

P.E.O. members believe that education is fundamental to world peace and understanding. In support of this philosophy, P.E.O. has developed national and

international programs to provide loans and scholarships to female college students. The P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund was established in 1907 as one of the first educational loan funds to assist women. The fund makes loans available to qualified women who desire a higher education and are in need of financial assistance.

The organization owns and operates Cottey College, a girls' school located in Nevada, Missouri. The college was founded by P.E.O. member Virginia Alice Cottey Stockard in 1884 and taken over by P.E.O. in 1927.

P.E.O. established the International Peace Scholarship Program in 1949. This scholarship program is maintained by the P.E.O. international organization with the purpose of awarding scholarships to women graduate students from foreign countries who wish to study in the United States and Canada.

The Program for Continuing Education, begun in 1973, provides grants to women who are returning to school after having been away for a period of time. These loans are available to women who serve as the primary provider for their family and who can complete their studies in a short period of time, resulting in a marketable skill.

P.E.O. also has a Scholar Awards project, which provides cash awards to women who are pursuing advanced degrees or are conducting advanced research.

**Source:**

P.E.O. Chapter CN Records, Collection 38, Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

P.E.O. Chapter DV Collection, Collection 29, Irving Archives, Irving Public Library

## Series Description

**Series I. Minutes, 1951-1979.** .35 linear ft. (seven volumes).

Arranged chronologically. Material includes minutes from club meetings from March 1951 to February 1979.

**Series II. Treasurer 's Record Book , 1989-2003** .04 linear ft. (one volume; included in box number two with scrapbook, 1951-1973)

One book, including receipts, disbursements, and savings account- information.

**Series III. Scrapbooks, 1951-1996.** 2 linear ft. (eight scrapbook boxes)

Scrapbooks left intact; volume one is very fragile. Material includes newspaper clippings, photographs and items from events, event descriptions, and obituaries.

## Scope and Content Note

The P.E.O., Chapter CN Records consist of meeting minutes, one local treasurer's record book, and nine scrapbooks covering the years 1951-2006. The collection is arranged in three series and is contained in 1 manuscript box and 8 scrapbook boxes.

Series I is made up of minutes from the Chapter CN meetings from March 8, 1951, through February 22, 1979. They are contained in seven volumes, six bound and one unbound. Handwritten and typed notes, describing club events, are found on the pages of the first three volumes.

Series II consists of the treasurer's records from 1989 to 2003. These records were received in a Local Treasurer's Record Book issued by the P.E.O. Sisterhood. The book is in chronological order in four sections including: Receipts, Disbursements, Savings Account, and Annual Closing.

Series III consists of five scrapbooks spanning the years 1951-2006. The volumes contain newspaper clippings pertaining to functions of Chapter CN, P.E.O. Sisterhood, and the individual activities of members; photographs from Chapter CN and P.E.O. events; and items from chapter events. Most of the subjects in volume one are identified, with the subjects in the remaining volumes being identified sporadically. The scrapbooks have been left intact so that the club may use them when needed. The pages of volume one are somewhat brittle, so a photocopy of the volume was made for preservation purposes. A loose P.E.O. pamphlet along with the Opening Ode and B.I.L. initiation script were placed in volume five.

An audiotape received from Mrs. Martha Faulds was removed and placed in the Irving Archives Oral History Collection (tape #239).

## Provenance Statement

P.E.O., Chapter CN Records 1951-2006, accession numbers 0304-03 and 0304-222, were donated to the Irving Archives by Mrs. Virginia Stephens, on behalf of the

P.E.O. Chapter CN, on October 17, 2003, and June 9, 2004. Accession Number 1314-70 was donated by Karen Martin on behalf of Chapter on May 16, 2014 and accession number 1415-61 was donated to the Archives by Carol Ware on behalf of the organization on March 24, 2015. Prior to their donation to the Archives, the records were kept in club members' homes. The audiotape was received with accession 0304-03 and was donated by Mrs. Martha Faulds.

### **Literary Rights Statement**

Permission to publish from the P.E.O., Chapter CN Records must be obtained from the Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

### **Note to the Researcher**

See also: Collection 29, P.E.O. Chapter DV Collection; Photos of P.E.O. For Chapter CN scrapbook presentation to the Archives see accession number 0304-44, Archives-created photo collection 100-1P, Box 3, Folder 23; Martha Faulds interview, Irving Archives Oral History Collection, tape #239.

Scrapbook volume 1 was photocopied because of its fragility. Please use the photocopy for research.

## **Container List**

### **Series I. Minutes, 1951-1979**

Box 1            Title, Dates, and Description

#### **Volume**

- Vol. 1            Minutes-March 8, 1951-October 11, 1956
- Vol. 2            Minutes-October 25, 1956-March 8, 1962
- Vol. 3            Minutes-March 22, 1962-February 25, 1965
- Vol. 4            Minutes-March 11, 1965-March 13, 1969
- Vol. 5            Minutes-March 27, 1969-February 24, 1972
- Vol. 6            Minutes-March 9, 1972-February 28, 1974
- Vol. 7            Minutes-March 14, 1974-February 22, 1979

### **Series II. Local Treasurer 's Record Book, 1989-2003**

Box 2            Title, Dates, and Description

- 1            Treasurer's Records, 1989-2003  
              Contains record of receipts, disbursements, and savings account.

**Series III. Scrapbooks, 1951-1996**

- Vol. 1            Scrapbook, 1951-1973  
                    Contains photographs and items from club events, event descriptions, newspaper clippings, and obituaries.

**Box 3            Title, Dates, and Description**

- Vol. 2            Scrapbook, 1974-1975  
                    Contains photographs and items from club events, newspaper clippings, and obituaries.

- Vol. 3            Scrapbook, 1976-1980  
                    Contains photographs and items from club events, newspaper clippings, and obituaries.

Box 4            Title, Dates, and Description

- Vol. 4            Scrapbook, 1980-1988  
                    Contains photographs and items from club events, newspaper clippings, and obituaries.

Box 5            Title, Dates, and Description

- Vol. 5            Scrapbook, 1988-1996  
                    Contains photographs and items from club events, newspaper clippings, and obituaries.

Box 6            Title, Dates, and Description

- Vol. 6            Scrapbook, 1996-2004  
                    Contains photographs and items from club events, newspaper clippings, and obituaries.

Box 7            Title, Dates, and Description

- Vol. 7            Scrapbook - Who's Who in PEO Chapter CN, 1999  
                    Contains pages with brief biographies of members of P.E.O. Chapter CN. The second half of the volume contains photos and memorabilia from various meetings, trips, and events the group was involved in through the decades.

Box 8            Title, Dates, and Description

Vol. 8 Scrapbook, 2004-2005  
Contains photographs and items from club events, newspaper clippings, and obituaries.

Box 9 Title, Dates, and Description

Vol. 9 Scrapbook, 2005-2006  
Contains photographs and items from club events, newspaper clippings, and obituaries.