



# YOUR IDAHO P.E.O. CHAPTER HOUSE CONNECTION

*Our goal is to share, educate and enlighten  
each of you regarding our Idaho treasure,  
The Idaho P.E.O. Chapter House!*

December 2016

## Holiday Bazaar News



The four Caldwell Chapters report that the Holiday Bazaar was a great success with over \$4,000 income between the chapters and the Chapter House.

The house was filled with great treasures of hand crafted items and sweet treats as well as lots of P.E.O.s and friends from around the valley. This has become a tradition to celebrate all that is unique within PEO.

This year, there were six baskets, presented by chapters F, AU, BM, BT, of Caldwell, BD, Parma and AT, Boise, to benefit the Chapter House. Each winner walked away with a basket filled with goodies and a smile on their face.

Thanks to all who made it such a success!

### Contact Us

We invite you to submit your stories, experiences and testimonials so that we can spread the word about the Chapter House. Email to [peoch@aol.com](mailto:peoch@aol.com) with your questions or comments. Thank you.

## Christmas at the Chapter House

December is a special and magical time at the Chapter House! The beautiful tree has ornaments from nearly 70 chapters around the state and is the focal point of the living room. Around the house one can find a variety of nativity sets, numbering more than 40! Everywhere you look there is beauty to behold from the wreath above the fireplace, to the antique wind chime setting on the heat register to the wooden sleigh given last year by a member of Chapter N and her husband. Even the outside is a joy to see with the 5 ft. wreath hanging above the front porch.

The residents enjoy several chapter meetings with Christmas music during the holidays. There is a special dinner party for residents, retiring board members and the Idaho State President, along with some family members. The evening is complete with Christmas carols and gifts!

The 800,000 lights of downtown Caldwell along Indian Creek, are also a treat to see! To take a walk with your family while enjoying the music and lights is a wonderful experience. There is even a coffee shop for a hot drink.

Come enjoy Christmas at the Chapter House! Call 459-3552 for a tour!



<http://peochapterhouseidaho.org>

*This newsletter has been approved for circularization by the Idaho P.E.O State Chapter Officers.*



*You're Invited*  
To Help Us Celebrate

Please join us in celebrating  
Chapter House Manager  
Darlene Harryman's retirement

**Open House At The Chapter House**

114 E. Logan, Caldwell, Idaho

**Sunday, December 11, 2016**

**2:00 - 5:00 P.M.**

Feel free to drop in to wish her well, enjoy some light refreshments and mingle with other P.E.O.s and invited guests.

A brief presentation at approximately 3:00 p.m., will be made to Darlene. We hope you'll join us and help Darlene celebrate her many years of service.

*Sponsored by The Chapter House Board  
and Caldwell Chapters, AU, BM, BT and F*



*Please see page 4 for  
a Farewell Message  
from Darlene*





## Remembering Pat Kerrick

The Chapter House residents and board are sad to announce the passing of Pat Kerrick who, with her husband Charles, lived at the Chapter House for five and a half years.

Pat was a wonderful woman who enjoyed life fully all of her 92 years. She even had a lively discussion with other residents and some board members at lunch the day before she died.

Pat joined Chapter BM in 1998, and loved what P.E.O. represented. Charles has decided to move to his son's home, a few blocks away, and is planning to join us for lunch from time to time.

## Family Memories

"Our mother, Jeanne Skyrn Hayman, had always told Susanne, Cynthia and me that when the time came for her to have fewer household responsibilities, she would like to go to the P.E.O. Chapter House to live. We were delighted! It is a place we have known all of our lives (*Susanne was even born there when it was a hospital*) and we knew that Mother would get great meals and be with friends....her P.E.O. sisters.

Although Mother resisted initially, we felt so much better knowing that someone would soon be there should she have a fall, or if she needed a little T.L.C. And, she always told us about the good lunches she enjoyed.

As she began to have more medical issues, Darlene and other staff members made an extra effort to help her, so she wouldn't have to go into a nursing home. But, eventually, that time came. We were sad because we thought it was better for her to be in Caldwell where her friends could visit easily, she could go to church or to concerts and programs at the College of Idaho and still be a part of the community.

I will always be grateful for the warm welcome we received when visiting, from Darlene and Kapi and other staff, as well as the graciousness of the other residents. Also, it was so helpful and convenient to be able to rent a Chapter House guest room or even the guest house when we were in Caldwell to visit Mother, and later our Aunt Eleanor Hayman. I really appreciated the calls I got and made to Darlene to get a realistic view of how things were going with Mother and Eleanor, which was never the same at the nursing home with all of its bureaucracy and rules.

I will, always, be grateful to P.E.O. and the existence of the Chapter House in Caldwell, to offer loving service to older P.E.O. members and their spouses. To remain in a community of women who know your history (*or will learn it*) and to have staff who are so conscientious and caring, is such a blessing! As a faraway daughter, it made me much more comfortable and at ease during the time Mother lived there!



*With gratitude,  
Carol Skyrn*



## Upcoming Events

### **Wednesday, December 7th - 12:00 -2:00pm:**

Lunch & Learn. Heidi Ware, Education and Outreach Director of the Intermountain Bird Observatory, will share information about IBO and their partnership with Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique. She will share about the IBO's work connecting education opportunities for young Mozambican women with bird conservation work, plus a bit about a vulture tracking project and other research projects.

### **Wednesday, December 14th:**

Christmas Dinner and Party for the Chapter House residents and retiring Board members

### **Sunday, December 25th:**

Chapter House closed for Christmas

## Did You Know.....

- There have been 14 managers since 1951
- Love Miller Smith, Chapter F, Caldwell, was the first manager and sometimes cook and gardener
- Retiring manager, Darlene Harryman's mother, Alice Harryman, was manager from 1975-1979
- Two managers were not P.E.O.s
- Four managers were Chapter House and BM members. Three were from Chapters AU and F, all Caldwell chapters
- The Chapter House manager is responsible for interviewing hiring training and overseeing all employees
- The manager answers directly to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees

## Dear P.E.O. Sisters & Friends of the Idaho P.E.O. Chapter House,

Life is a series of comings and goings for each of us. As I retire from the position as Chapter House manager, I am filled with gratitude for the ten years that I have had to serve our sisterhood. In our own unique way, we have touched the lives of the sisters, their partners and families who have called the Chapter House home. They have lived and have died as they express a loving concern for each other that far exceeds any other living community.

I feel honored to have worked with the dedicated Chapter House Board members and State Board Members who volunteer hours of their time to insure the proper management and stability and the general health of our organization.

The hidden gems of this job have been the countless sisters and their chapters that have stepped up to help whether it was pulling weeds or decorating for Christmas; promoting the Chapter House at their meetings or sharing information with P.E.O.s outside Idaho; or the support with annual gifts, memorials or participating in events like Wine in the Garden and Idaho Gives. Many have joined us for a meal at our table as they have a chapter social or coming across the state to spend a weekend in the guest cottage while they tour the Boise valley. Together we have made a difference.

The future of the Chapter House is bright as we look forward to improved communications through this newsletter and social media and the renovation of the Triplex to a new modern interior with two new residents expected in the spring. We, once again, have women placing their names on a waiting list for when they "are ready", in a couple of years. Caldwell is growing and revitalizing the downtown, along with being the gateway to the Snake River Wine region. A new manager has been selected and brings a wealth of experience and skill to take us to a new level as a wonderful community to call home.

My parting wish is that each P.E.O., in Idaho, and beyond, realize the value of this special place. That the desire expressed by Love Miller Smith in 1936 at State Convention, becomes a common thought for each of us. She said, "There could be no more worthy object for the P.E.O.s than to assist our young people with their education and to care for the aged of our own number."

The Idaho P.E.O. Chapter House is a community of expressing a loving concern! It is worthy of our continued support!

Thank you and God bless you all!

*~Darlene Harryman*

*PS. I am staying in Caldwell, which has become a city I love. I look forward to working on the projects at home that have been placed on the "back burner" and those hobbies that I have wanted to do. I may even see you at a state convention!*