



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!

October 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 5th Lunch & Learn!

The program is "Gourd Painting" presented by Antonia Tamayo. Lunch served at noon followed by the program at 1:00pm.

For reservations, call the Chapter House Manager at 208-459-3552. Limit is 15 for lunch and 20 for the presentation. (*Lunch and Learn is held monthly with a variety of presenters and topics.*)

Friday Night Happy

Hours! Come join our residents as we celebrate TGIF! 4:30-6:00pm

Call ahead to the manager (208) 459-3552 for reservations. Light appetizers are always appreciated.

Oct. 29th - Idaho State

Cottey Committee will be holding a planning retreat and the State Membership Committee will be presenting workshops for area chapters in the Chapter House and Guest Cottage.



Introducing Our Residents

Fall is in the air!

Cooler weather, multi-colored falling leaves, scarecrows, pecans, pumpkins! And, the most precious part of our ever changing seasons at the Chapter House, are our residents. We dedicate this issue to those who live and laugh together in a community filled with love and respect!

★ Betty Kinsey

She drove by the Chapter House for years, just living down the road a couple of miles. Betty is an Idaho gal (Idaho Falls, ID) who attended the University of Idaho, where she met her future husband. When she married Henry, they moved to Caldwell, ID. It was here she taught school (high school accounting and business law) for 30 years, and they raised three daughters. Betty is proud to say that she and Henry plus all their girls are U of I graduates. She has seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. The photo gallery on her kitchen wall tells the special stories of their lives! After almost 50 years of marriage, Henry passed away. One day, Betty stopped by the Chapter House on an errand. It was lunch time; the residents invited her to join them. She declined but agreed to a cup of coffee and wonderful, fun conversation. She went home, sat down to a sandwich and

thought how lonely it was to be all by herself. It was not long before Betty and her faithful dog, Susie, were residents of the Idaho State Chapter House! (*That was four years ago*) She is so happy with her choice stating, "they are always doing something"!

★ Eleanor Larsen

One of our newer residents, Eleanor, is nicknamed "Rosie the Riveter" because that was her profession during WWII, in which her 2 brothers served. She felt this was her contribution, although her parents were not too happy about it! Eleanor spent many years in California, was married and raised 5 children...4 boys and 1 girl! She was a seamstress for a time, making wedding dresses with a friend. She, also, worked in a florist shop and loved everything she did. A fellow worker introduced her to P.E.O. and she enjoyed the 2 nights out a month it afforded her. She is, now, a 50 year member. When she sold her house in CA it sold the first day of its listing. Eleanor had visited her daughter in Idaho several times and decided the Chapter House was the place to settle. She lives in the newest remodeled residence and is quite happy. You wouldn't believe she will be 95 in February!



<http://peochapterhouseidaho.org>

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



Introducing Our Residents *(continued)*

★ Donna McCulloch

Donna is happy living in the main house! She isn't home that much, though, with her volunteer work at Saint Al's in Nampa, sometimes twice a week, and exercise classes 3-4 times a week. Donna is originally from Pocatello and taught school for 33 years, while raising 3 children. She is a 20+ year member of P.E.O. currently in Chapter BT in Caldwell. Donna served 4 years on the Chapter House Board and kept track of memorials and donations, writing many thank you notes to donors. That's a lot of hand writing!

in different states, working at various careers. Eventually, they formed a partnership and opened Gist and Powell Insurance Agency (now owned by Three Rivers Agency) in Payette. After Kent passed away, Edith decided it was time to sell the home and acreage where they had resided for 56 years. She moved to one of the individual residences at the Chapter House two years ago. Though she is almost a nonagenarian, Edith is not just sitting around! To interview her, it was necessary to wait until she completed her job....volunteering in the nearby hospital gift shop!

★ Dr. Charles and Pat Kerrick

This P.E.O. and her BIL have been married for 67 years and 60 of those years were spent in their Caldwell home raising 7 children! Both graduated from the College of Idaho where they met. They parted for a time when Dr. Charles attended medical school and served in the Navy. Pat was attending graduate school at that time. Pat received her MA at the same time as Dr. Charles received his MD. After marrying and settling in Caldwell, Dr. Charles was a local doctor from 1950-2003. He remembers making house calls to residents of the triplex cottage here at the Chapter House. The Kerricks now reside, happily and comfortably, in the Tobias residence.

★ Sue Anderson

The Meaning of P.E.O.= Residency at the Idaho Chapter House!

When Sue joined Chapter L in St. Anthony in 1971, she had no idea that P.E.O. would mean so much to her in 2016! As she says, "Life has had its twists and turns and you never know what is around the corner." Sue loved her short three years as a resident member of Chapter L, often hearing about the Chapter House in Caldwell. But, as life changes happened, she moved to California as a teacher for more than 20 years, continuing as a nonresident member of Chapter L. The next turn was moving to Oregon to help her family and going inactive in P.E.O.

So.....fast forward to August 2016, Sue is riding the Greyhound bus between her son's home in Idaho Falls and her place in southern Oregon, wondering where she should settle next, to take care of herself for a change! As it happened, she saw the road sign for Caldwell and was reminded of those informational moments during P.E.O. meeting in St. Anthony. Suddenly, it dawned on her, "There is a P.E.O. home in Caldwell!"! Less than 24 hours later, she had contacted the manager, learning about the Chapter House and its life style which felt like the right fit for Sue. And, once a P.E.O..... always a P.E.O.....she reinstated! She visited the Chapter House with her son and grandsons who were all impressed that there was a beautiful home for her such as this! Sue is now settling into the "penthouse" of the mansion to begin her

next stage of life with the loving concern from each new sister and, also, our BIL, Charles. Sue does believe in miracles and this is one of them!

And, next spring, another member from St. Anthony plans to move in to one of the refurbished units of the Triplex. This will unite friends who have not seen each other for over 35 years! A side note from our manager, Darlene; *"The Idaho P.E.O. Chapter House offers a home like no other for our sisters who are just around the bend...wherever that may be."*

Did You Know.....

- There have been a total of 125 residents from 1951 to 2016. Twelve of those had their BILs living with them.
- The resident living at the Chapter House the longest was Amy Mitchell, Chapter F. She lived there **27 years**, from 1952 to 1979. Next was Flavilla Blondel, from 1955 to 1980 for a total of **25 years**.
- The individual residences have recently been named to honor the residents who had them built, from 1955-1989. They are Mitchell, Cole/Blondel, Pasley, Tobias, Harbaugh, Kaley/Gates and Montgomery. Each one unique in its own way!

Contact Us

We invite you to be a part of the life of your Chapter House. Please submit your stories, experiences and testimonials so that we can spread the word about this Idaho Treasure. Contact the Chapter House Manager at peoch@aol.com with your questions or comments. Thank you.

Your Idaho P.E.O. Chapter House Newsletter Team includes:

- Patricia Benedict, BT
- Bobbie Bonaminio, AU
- Mary Buchanan, H
- Barbara Dujanovic, H
- Judy Grunke, T
- Darlene Harryman, BM

★ Edith Gist

This is a landmark year for Edith! In December she will celebrate her 90th birthday! There will be a big party complete with ice cream and cake at her United Methodist Church in Payette. Of course, her family will be here to honor her. Edith has two daughters, one son, four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She grew up in Bryant, SD where she graduated from high school, went to summer school and started her teaching career—at 17! She graduated from General Beadle Teachers College (Dakota State University) and later earned a BA in Elementary Education from Boise State College (BSU). Many a child benefited from being one of Edith's students. Edith and her husband, Kent, lived an adventurous life, living