



# Idaho P.E.O.

## Chapter House Newsletter

### CONNECTION

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

FEBRUARY 2018



### DID YOU KNOW?

*The grounds to the west of the Chapter House is called Esther Hill Park. It was funded by some of the monies that Esther Hill, Caldwell BM, left to the Chapter House.*

*Many memorial gifts and money designated specifically for the park and plants had also been used.*

*More cottages had first been planned for this area, however, at that time (1977) the city planned to widen Kimball and it was thought best to use that area for a park for the residents to enjoy.*

## AD HOC COMMITTEES NEEDED

In the past, Ad Hoc committees have played an important part in the management of the Chapter House. Now, more than ever, there is a need for capable P.E.O. chapter members to serve on these committees which are mostly temporary services. Ad Hoc committees have been set up for important activities, such as, Lunch and Learn, the Chapter House newsletter and fund raising projects. At this time the CH board is **planning on reviving the Wine & Cheese event**, which has been successful in the past. It is planned for late summer or early fall. Help is needed!

Also needed are new members for aforementioned activities. P.E.O. members with expertise in certain areas, such as finance, fund raising experience or other talents can be very helpful to the CH board.

*Please consider helping out if interested and available.*

#### Contact:

Sharon Miller, CH Chairman  
(208-642-3909) or

Karen Ray, CH manager  
(208-459-3225) and  
you will be welcomed!



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There will be three board member vacancies coming up for the 2018-2019 term, which begin in July. Generally each year 3 members complete a 4 year term and at this time there is a vacated term for a lesser amount of time. Members who complete an unfinished term, may apply for a new 4 year term. Confused?

Bottom line is that new board members are needed! Remember that Idaho chapters may only have one board member at a time (except for the founding chapter (Chapter F). Representatives may come from the entire state, which makes traveling a little difficult for northern Idaho chapters, but travel expenses are available.

It would be an opportunity to visit family if separated by the miles between north and south. This is also a chance to share your talents for the good of the Chapter House. Please contact Sharon Miller (208-642-3900 or [smidaho@q.com](mailto:smidaho@q.com)) for information.

## A Thank You Letter

The following e-mail letter was received earlier (Dec. 15th, 2017) by Manager Karen Ray. This is word for word what the letter contained:

*Dear Karen,*

*My name is Laura Iverson-Bastiani and I am Betty Kinsey's granddaughter. I just want to thank you and everyone at the P.E.O. house for all you do for my Grandmother as well as the residents there. My Grandma is always talking about how much she loves her cottage and how much she loves the P.E.O. house!*

*As a family member living out of state, there is nothing better than knowing my Grandma is being looked after and taken care of and also knowing that she is loving life and is surrounded by friends. Of course I'm thrilled she has her dog and her garden too!!*

*I am just so incredibly grateful for this amazing benefit you provide and all the love and support you give to the residents. I am truly thankful!*

*Sincerely,*

*Laura Iverson-Bastiani*





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## Celebration of Life

It has been a sad time for the CH residents when learning of the death of a recent resident, Eleanor Larsen.

Eleanor had been living in the Harbaugh Residence since its renovation.

In her earlier life, she had been an original “*Rosie the Riverter*” during World War II.

**A memorial service will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 22 which would have been her 96th birthday.**

She was a member of Caldwell, BM since moving here from California to be near her family. All are welcome to attend.

## MEET A VERY BUSY BOARD MEMBER

This month, as in the past few months, we are highlighting a CH board member. Ruth Hicks has been a member of the board for just a year, but has proven her worth. Ruth is a member of Boise Chapter BX and was initiated May 9th, 2011.

On the board she has served as Corresponding Secretary and a member of the P.R. and History committee. As part of that committee she ably chaired the Idaho Gives program in 2017, which earned over \$8,000 for the CH. She has also worked on the CH website and Facebook page.

Ruth is a Presbyterian (U.S.A.) member and retired in 2014 after 30 years of service. But she has certainly stayed busy. She and her husband, John, are currently Retirement Consultants for the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church and teach pre-retirement classes to clergy and their spouses across the U.S. for nine months of the year.

Ruth and her husband have a blended family with a daughter in Boise and three grandsons, who keep them busy with sports and social times together. Another family lives in Alabama with a granddaughter and great-granddaughter. They also travel east to visit a son and daughter-in-law in Brooklyn. Needless to say they travel east as often as possible.

Being a reader Ruth belongs to a book club and often sews. She enjoys volunteering for her church by teaching Sunday School and taking part in pastoral care.

Ruth has been thrilled with the updates to the CH and grounds in recent years that make it attractive to P.E.O sisters. As the board and manager provide a unique residence and source of companionship, her hope is that it continues to expand and update its services as a safe and friendly residential community.

Sad to say, but Ruth is leaving the board soon, but promises to continue to promote the CH through her P.E.O. connections. She will be missed!

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## JANUARY LUNCH & LEARN

- ♥ Thursday, February 8, 2018
- ♥ 12:00-1:00 pm
- ♥ Lunch with the Residents (\$15.00)
- ♥ 1:00 Learning Session

Presenter: Gene Kaplan (Kapi),  
Chapter House Chef



### “Antiques and Old Stuff”

Besides being a great chef, Kapi has been involved with many aspects of antiques for more than 40 years. He claims to have “a little knowledge about a large variety of antiques.” Having been in the business of buying and selling antiques and collectibles he has owned his own antique stores. His presentation will include hints on buying and selling antiques, including getting rid of things if downsizing, and a little insight as to how things have changed in the antique market. As Gene states, “*There is an art to buying and selling antiques, part of which is staying in tune with the market.*” \*

- ♥ Limit: 15 (For lunch)
- ♥ Registration date for lunch Wednesday, February 7th  
(by noon please)

#### TO REGISTER:

Please contact Karen Ray  
(208) 459-3352  
idpeoch@gmail.com

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you are not able to attend lunch, but wish to attend the session, please contact Karen Ray (listed above). These sessions are open to all P.E.O.s and guests.

\*P.S. If you have questions about a piece you may have, bring a picture and Kapi may have information for you, or tell you where to look!

#### 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 [idpeoch@gmail.com](mailto:idpeoch@gmail.com), with your questions or comments. Thank you.

#### Chapter House Newsletter Team

- Patricia Benedict, BT
- Bobbie Bonaminio, AU
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- Karen Ray, BT



<http://peochapterhouseidaho.org>