

**REPORT OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE CHAPTER
COTTEY COLLEGE COMMITTEE
2019-2020**

What a difference a year makes at Cottey College. This is the year that a virus pandemic changed the world and Cottey students too. The students were not able (allowed) to journey to far lands for the promised travel experience. Students completed their spring semester from home via distance learning techniques. Some students, about fifty according to my call in March, had to stay on campus as travel to their homes was blocked by an unseen but deadly virus being fought through a policy of 'social distancing'. Graduation was held virtually using internet streaming technologies.

All is not sad news from New Jersey P.E.O. sisters. Chapters reported contributing \$9846+ to the College (2019-2020). The fundraisers were creative, wide ranging, prolific and effective. Here are some that have been reported: flower sales, i.e. spring flowers, poinsettias, and Christmas wreaths; food made by members and/or resold such as apple pies, peanuts and pecans; service projects like parking cars during race events and wrapping gifts during the holiday season; and parties, i.e. mahjong gaming, an ice cream social, a chili and brew fest, a Mardi Gras event and many tea parties.

There were six students in the Seaboard suite this academic year. They were graced by New Jersey P.E.O. chapters with gift cards, gift baskets, birthday cards, graduation cards, care packages, Cottey cash and a video projector as requested by the students. New Jersey's month to support the students in Seaboard suite (2019-2021) is March and the college was closed due to the viral pandemic limiting some opportunities for celebrations.

Your Cottey College committees' reported contacting guidance counselors at high schools and manning tables at college recruitment fairs throughout the state. I am not aware of any students who currently attend Cottey and of only one who had intended to attend a recruiting event in Missouri this summer. However, all recruiting events have been canceled for 2020. Nonetheless, the college expects a full cohort of student both freshmen and transfer students to enroll in the fall 2020.

It has been a fantastic year to "let love lead", the theme selected by our New Jersey P.E.O. State president Beth Staples. The annual state convention has been canceled but the theme moves forward. Thank you for letting this committee participate.

Julie Beshore Bliss, '64, M Chairwoman
Bonnie Shrut, G
Stephanie Widdoes, AN
Adviser: Rosemary Seghatoleslami, Secretary

**REPORT OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE CHAPTER
P.E.O. EDUCATIONAL LOAN FUND COMMITTEE
2019 - 2020**

In 1907, the Supreme Chapter of P.E.O. established The Educational Fund for educational purposes with \$800.00, awarding the first loan of \$300.00 to Edna Pickering. Since then, the P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund has approved loans totaling over \$200,000,000.00 to nearly 50,000 women. P.E.O. has been “*Letting Love Lead*” for 113 years, providing women with low interest loans to help them achieve their educational goals.

There is an ELF loan for every stage of a candidate’s educational need: \$12,000.00 for associate and bachelor degree programs, technical or professional training and post-graduate certifications; \$15,000.00 for master’s degrees; and \$20,000.00 for doctoral degrees. Interest remains at 2% with an 8 to 10 year payback period. International reports that at the end of the fiscal year (2019), trustees were averaging approval of 76 applications per month, more than double over the last 10 years. The increase in applications approved also increased the usage of the ELF fund. In June 2016, 21% of the ELF fund was available for use compared to only 8.8% being available for new loans at the end of June 2019. In 2020, ELF is approving loans averaging over \$1,000,000.00 per month. In order to continue loaning at the current pace, ELF is relying on the generous contributions of S/P/D chapters so that qualified applicants can receive these much needed funds.

Chapter recommendation forms and supporting information must be submitted online through the ELF page of the International website. There are simple step-by-step instructions to guide chapters through the process of identifying, interviewing and recommending a woman for an ELF loan, as well as program ideas and helpful information for ELF chapter chairmen to share with their chapters.

Our New Jersey chapters were “*Letting Love Lead*” in successfully sponsoring **19** women this past year, totaling \$244,500.00. Chapters C, D, W, AB, AE, AF, AI, AU and AV all deserve recognition for sponsoring one or more ELF candidates, with Chapter AQ leading the way with **7** successful applicants. Did you know that the default rate on loan repayment is less than .5%? Congratulations to the 9 ELF recipients from Chapters M, W, AB, AJ, AL, AN and AQ who repaid their loans this past year, totaling \$108,000.00.

Our New Jersey chapters got into the spirit of “*Letting Love Lead*” by sponsoring fund raising teas, lunches, theater parties, bed & breakfasts, walk-a-thons, bus trips, game nights, seasonal events (Mardi Gras, holiday boutique and Spring fling) and an UnFund raiser (where money is donated, nothing bought or sold). There was no shortage of goods for sale--from soups to nuts, homegrown vegetables, handmade items, plants and flowers, Pampered Chef and RADA cutlery. As a result of all this hard work and “fun” raising, New Jersey chapters donated a total of \$106,432.92 to the P.E.O. Projects in 2019-2020, with \$13,124.50 to the Educational Loan Fund (a 25% increase over last year).

While word of mouth and member outreach continue to be the most prevalent way of locating potential ELF candidates, chapters are coming up with innovative ways to spread the news that P.E.O. has money to lend qualified applicants--posting ELF flyers in local establishments and providing information to community support groups, contacting local colleges and trade schools, handing out P.E.O. business cards at doctor’s offices and restaurants and hosting a table at a local farmer’s market.

The P.E.O. website, along with The Record and The Marguerite Messenger Link (our State Chapter's newsletter) are the most commonly used resources to help ELF chairpersons with their monthly reports and program ideas. There is a wealth of information, including games and activities, to challenge one's knowledge of ELF on the International website.

It has been my privilege and honor to work with the New Jersey ELF chapter chairpersons who are enthusiastically "*Letting Love Lead*" them to finding candidates and supporting our loan process. The Educational Loan Fund changes lives, and I am proud of New Jersey's continued commitment to help more women reach for the stars!

Deborah McNamara, M, Chairman
Carol Hume Carr, AI
Advisor: Helen Wolfmeyer, Vice President,

**REPORT OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE CHAPTER
INTERNATIONAL PEACE SCHOLARSHIP (IPS)
2019 - 2020**

During the year ending January 31, 2020, New Jersey Chapters contributed \$14,129.00 to the International Peace Scholarship fund. The IPS State Committee thanks these generous chapters. Their members are the women helping women around the world reach for the stars.

Funds were raised in a variety of fun and creative ways. Bakeless Bake Sales and Non-Fundraiser Fundraisers. Grocery Store Gift Cards, Game Nights and Consignment Clothing Drives. Brunches and Dinners with and without BILS. Auctions and Raffles. Hikes and Homemade Lunches. Pie, Soup, Eggs, Flower, Tomato, Honey and Nut Sales. Jewelry, Note Card, Travel Gifts, Calendar, Shopping Bags, Candle and Lantern Sales. Forgotten Pin Fines, Penny Collections and Blessings Jars. Bus Trips and Theatre Parties. Parking Cars, Walkathons, and Yard Sales. Holiday Greens and Claus for a Cause. High Tea, Spring Tea, and CotTea. Girls Nights Out, Margarita Madness and Mardi Gras Parties.

Most local IPS committees gave monthly reports. All local committees gave annual reports. They used information from International and State websites, publications and newsletters. Some chapters presented wonderful programs about IPS. A chapter honored the 70th anniversary of IPS using historical accounts from summer and fall issues of The Record. Another chapter was fortunate enough to have its PIP as a speaker. She told her story about growing up in Zambia, attending Cottey College, and her current academic research.

Seventeen New Jersey chapters had eighteen Partners in Peace. Letting Love Lead, chapters reached out to their PIPs to let them know that their financial support came from an especially supportive, caring organization of women. Methods varied. There were emails, cards and FaceTime calls. A chapter presented a program on its PIP's country. Members from another chapter met their PIP where she studies in New York City and took her to lunch. One PIP is expecting a child this spring. Her sponsoring chapter is planning to send baby gifts to her once the child arrives. Yet another chapter discovered that its PIP likes to collect shells. A sister who lives on Sanibel Island, FL sent her a conch shell as a holiday gift.

Many chapters wish to be PIPs and are working toward that goal.

Serving as Chair of the State IPS Committee was an honor and a pleasure. I deeply regret the cancellation of Convention when, at the highly anticipated Education Hour, IPS recipient Daniela Araya was scheduled to speak. I thank IPS State Committee member Arline Cox for her service and truly wish all sisters could have viewed the IPS exhibit she designed.

Respectfully submitted by
Carol Cornwell, AG, Chairman
Arline Cox, AP
Advisor: Helen Wolfmeyer, Vice President

**REPORT OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE CHAPTER
P.E.O. PROGRAM FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE
2019 - 2020**

New Jersey P.E.O.'s let love lead them in helping 14 women receive PCE grants totaling in the amount of \$24,800.00. Congratulations to those chapters who worked diligently to have successful candidates. It is so heartwarming to present a check to a recipient, knowing how much it will help with her educational expenses.

In order to continue providing grants to as many deserving women as possible, we need to be diligent in our contributions. New Jersey contributed \$15,283 to PCE, raising money in a variety of ways. There were bake sales, Pampered Chef parties, silent auctions, wine and cheese socials, Bunco parties, volunteering for local race events, walkathons, BIL socials, theater parties, and teas. Chapters sold notecards, calendars, gift cards, dry soup mix, nuts, vanilla, handmade beaded jewelry, fall and spring flowers, books and puzzles, holiday greens (wreaths, swags, garland), and themed box lunches. There were also private contributions to the project. Thank you for all your hard work!

Chapters showed their love and encouragement to their recipients, both current and former, with cards, emails, phone calls, and invitations to social events. Information about PCE was shared through articles in the Record, information from International, and the Marguerite Messenger.

The PCE Committee is proud to present to you the following list of chapters who sponsored women, the amount of their grant and field of study.

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|------------|------------|--|
| Chapter W | \$1,000.00 | Nursing |
| Chapter AE | \$1,500.00 | Business Administration |
| Chapter AJ | \$3,000.00 | Sociology/Women Studies |
| Chapter AJ | \$3,000.00 | Behavior Science |
| Chapter AJ | \$1,000.00 | Business Administration |
| Chapter AL | \$1,800.00 | Secondary English High School Teacher |
| Chapter AM | \$1,400.00 | Public Administration |
| Chapter AM | \$1,200.00 | Library and Information Science |
| Chapter AQ | \$1,200.00 | P-3 Modified Alternate Route to Teaching Certification |
| Chapter AQ | \$3,000.00 | Early Childhood Education |
| Chapter AQ | \$1,100.00 | Licensed Practical Nurse |
| Chapter AU | \$1,100.00 | Dance |
| Chapter AV | \$3,000.00 | Psychology |
| Chapter AX | \$1,500.00 | Human Services/Pre-Social Worker |

Total awarded to New Jersey women was \$24,800.00.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the PCE program. Without it we would not be finding and assisting these deserving women with their educational goals. A special thank you to Libby Haynes for helping with our Convention speaker, to Chapter AD for sharing a program idea, and to Helen Wolfmeyer, our PCE advisor.

Berniece Bright, AQ, Chairman
Krista Risley, AQ
Advisor: Helen Wolfmeyer, Vice President

**REPORT OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE CHAPTER
P.E.O. SCHOLAR AWARD COMMITTEE
2019 - 2020**

New Jersey P.E.O.s truly let the love lead during the 2019/2020 project year in support of the Scholar Award (PSA) and women pursuing doctoral degrees. As we moved into this nomination season, we were building on the success of the previous year, during which New Jersey chapters nominated 29 candidates with nine Scholar Awardees named.

This year was another successful year for New Jersey with 25 women nominated by 14 of the state's 38 chapters and \$12,024 donated towards PSA. Our state also proudly recognized 12 chapters with laureate distinction for 2020, through chapter donations of \$500 towards PSA. Congratulations to W, AB, AC, AD, AG, AI, AM, AN, AO, AQ, and AV.

PSA local chapter chairmen looked to many of New Jersey's local universities for candidates, including Rutgers, Rowan, Seton Hall, Fairleigh Dickinson, Princeton, Princeton Theological Seminary, and NJIT. A few chapters have direct contact with a representative at certain schools, while for many of the colleges mentioned chapter representatives continue to work to find a university resource to help identify candidates.

The annual local chapter reports summarized that chapter meetings and programs were enhanced in many ways by the information that PSA chairs shared with their sisters at meetings. Many gave monthly reports, using the international website and the *P.E.O. Record* as a resource. Others presented an annual program. This allowed them to go into more detail about PSA, which they said was informative particularly for new members. The international website was extremely useful for fun program ideas.

New Jersey's P.E.O sisters supported PSA financially through various fundraising efforts. Gift and scrip cards; vacation, wine, and holiday auctions; consignment shop donations; flower, nuts, eggs, and mug sales; and fun events and parties around themes such as a leap year, chili and brew, Bunco, painting, and high tea were just some of the creative ideas. Chapter M even hosted a Margarita Madness party. All of these events helped support fundraising efforts for all of the P.E.O. projects.

Thank you to all of the chapters that participated and supported PSA. Many thanks also to Rutgers University's assistant dean Teresa Delcorso-Ellman for her support in providing information about PSA to Rutgers doctoral students and her commitment to establishing a platform to identify candidates. She has been a tremendous resource for New Jersey chapters.

It has been my pleasure, along with my co-chairman Joy Pellegrino, to serve on the New Jersey State P.E.O. Scholar Award Committee. Thank you for this opportunity.

Diane Reed, AI, Chairman
Joy Pellegrino, AK
Advisor: Helen Wolfmeyer, Vice President

**REPORT OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE CHAPTER
P.E.O. STAR SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
2019 - 2020**

The P.E.O. STAR Scholarship recognizes the accomplishments of graduating high school seniors planning to pursue post-secondary education at an accredited institution. Recipients of the scholarship exhibit excellence not only in academics, but also in leadership, extracurricular activities, community service, and potential for future success.

In 2019, nine exceptional young women from New Jersey were awarded this one-time, \$2500. highly competitive award. Congratulations to Sofia Dominguez-Chapter G, Ella Frasciano-Chapter AV, Teresa Folan-Chapter AU, Elisavet Gallou-Chapter AO, Sophia McMullan-Chapter M, Cassandra Rudderow-Chapter AW, Laila Salaam-Chapter W, Julia Wierzbicki-Chapter AK, Alexis Williams-Chapter AC.

Chapters use a few different methods to find candidates. The most common is asking friends and family members for recommendations. Many chapters have developed a rapport with one or more of their local high schools, asking for recommendations from the guidance departments. When a chapter finds more than one candidate that is outstanding, chapters have attempted to “share” candidates with another chapter.

Many thanks go out to the chapters who take the effort to search for a candidate, and most especially to the nine chapters that were successful in finding this year’s nominees.

New this year was the implementation of the P.E.O. STAR Scholarship Constellation Chapter. A constellation is commonly defined as a “group of stars that form a pattern and are given a name—any brilliant, outstanding group or assemblage.” It allowed any local chapter to become part of a STAR Constellation with a lump sum gift of \$500. Proceeds of the new chapter designation goes towards providing more STAR scholarships to outstanding women.

New Jersey Chapters enjoyed a variety of creative and entertaining fundraisers this year. Some featured beverages such as tea, margaritas or wine. Some chapters sold items designed and made by sisters such as note cards, and jewelry, while other chapters sold homemade soups and baked goods. Department store gift cards, pens, calendars, auctions and raffles, as well as garage sales went on throughout the year.

With all this creative fundraising activity coupled with those chapters who became Constellation Chapters, New Jersey gave \$11,797.00 to STAR Scholarship! Since the STAR Scholarship is officially self-sustaining, every dollar of that goes directly to fund scholarships.

Sincere thanks to all New Jersey Chapters for their hard work and support to the STAR Scholarship projects. A special thank you to Helen Wolfmeyer for her guidance and encouragement.

Bonnie Rosa AL, Chairman
Judith Schaefer, AD, Co-Chairman
Adivsor: Helen Wolfmeyer, Vice President

**REPORT OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE CHAPTER
P.E.O. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
2019 - 2020**

Our President's theme, Letting Love Lead, L.L.L., guided this committee to share the joy of P.E.O. with others by being open to new ideas and opportunities. We encouraged all chapters to have several, either planned or spontaneous events to celebrate our sisterhood and share it with others.

The second year of our 5-year plan was adjusted to reflect the successes and challenges of our state membership. We are pleased to have new sisters but continue to struggle as sisters transfer out of state and others go inactive. One enormous accomplishment that is part of the 5-year plan is the formation of our new chapter, AZ. PSPs JoDee Pettine and Ginger Flaten, our Membership Development Team have worked for two years to create this chapter. The actual granting of the chapter's charter was to have occurred in late March but needed to be cancelled due to the Corona Virus. At this writing the new date has yet to be set.

Each month, this committee has forwarded the Hot Spot and VIP ideas sent from our International Representative, Kathleen Feldman. Notes were sent to new initiates, reinstatements and transfers as they were last year. At the fall reciprocity, note cards were handed out to all chapters in attendance and were mailed to those chapters unable to attend. Ideas were shared with chapters on what to say when a sister goes inactive.

This committee celebrates positive growth in 19 Chapters this year through 27 initiations, 2 reinstatements, and 12 transfers from other states. These chapters were to be recognized at convention, another victim of the virus. We are including them instead in this report. Chapters with one positive growth star are: I/New Brunswick, Q/Montclair, R/Teaneck, AP/Basking Ridge, AR/Fair Haven. Chapters with two positive growth stars are: C/Sparta, H/Morristown, S/Short Hills, Y/Princeton, AD/Ridgewood, AJ/Pitman, AK/East Brunswick, AM/Pennington, AX/Flemington. Chapters with three positive growth stars are: A-B/Montclair, AN/Cherry Hill. Chapters with four positive growth stars are: AE/Princeton, AL/Toms River, AS/Westfield.

The local chapter reports are an extraordinary way to see the creativity and originality chapters showed in L.L.L. events. For example one chapter planned a "paper art" social and each sister brought a friend. Another formed 4-5 random groups of sisters who were encouraged to get together and learn more about each other. A Cot-Tea was held in the fall by one chapter and other chapters joined in lunching together. This committee encouraged chapters to have fun by celebrating a fun, wacky and trivial holiday. The following days were celebrated by chapters: Soup Day, Trivia Day, Bean Day, Thank you Day, Teddy Bear Day and Eat an Extra Dessert Day just to name a few.

Chapters also reported ways they mentor new chapter sisters. Carpooling and driving new members to meetings is frequently done. Mentoring is also common but several chapters mentioned that the mentor is also asked to view the meeting as a new member and write down questions she would ask if she were new. For example when committee reports are given what does each committee do? What do the frequent acronyms mean? Another great idea is a "one year counseling session" with new members to make sure they are feeling part of the chapter and answer any questions. Thank you to all chapters that shared their ideas with this committee.

This chairman thanks her committee members Deb Adkins/R, Dena Brisby/AX, and Carol Maul/AD for their work supporting N.J. P.E.O.s. Beth Gammie/W has once again served as Unaffiliate Coordinator and is greatly appreciated for her contact with chapters about sisters not in chapters. Membership Development members Ginger Flaten/AO and JoDee Pettine/W worked extremely hard to bring a new chapter, AZ into New Jersey.

Wendy K. Baker, AL, PSP, Chairman

Deborah Adkins, R

Dena Brisby, AX, PSP

Carol Maul, AD

Beth Gammie, W, PSP, Unaffiliate Coordinator

Ginger Flaten, AO, PSP, Membership Development

JoDee Pettine, W, PSP, Membership Development

Advisor: Robyn Burns, Organizer

**REPORT OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE CHAPTER
NEW JERSEY CARES COMMITTEE
2019 - 2020**

The New Jersey CARES Committee is pleased to report that we have been diligent in performing our duties this year. Under Special Assistance this committee can provide a one-time gift of up to \$1,000 in financial assistance to members or non-members of this sisterhood who are in need. Applications are made by local chapters and sent on to the New Jersey CARES Committee. After submission they are reviewed, voted upon and sent on to the executive board for approval.

Special Assistance received three applications for assistance this year. A grant of \$1000 was awarded to a teacher to help complete the financial requirements to obtain her K-12 Dance Teaching Certification. A second application did not meet the requirements for approval and a third remains incomplete.

At the end of February, 2020, the Special Assistance Fund had a balance of \$20,772.54. The Home Fund is designed to reimburse chapters the dues for P.E.O. members unable to pay because of personal circumstances. Due to the 2020 pandemic, the deadline of April 15th has been relaxed and we continue to receive applications. At the end of February, 2020, the Home Fund had a balance of \$27,806.59.

The Chairman thanks her committee for their diligence and timely responses to all the applications and to the committee's advisor, Lois Johann, for her guidance.

Jean Dorr, AP, Chair
Nancy Dowd, AO
Judith Schaefer, AD
Advisor: Lois Johann, Treasurer

**REPORT OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE CHAPTER
HISTORY COMMITTEE
2019 – 2020**

Carol Hyde and Barbara Battles continued to serve on the History Committee for the 2019-2020 program year to finish documenting the Sesquicentennial Celebration for P.E.O.s 150th year and reorganizing the archives.

A final notice of the Sesquicentennial celebration was published in the September 2019 issue of the Marguerite Messenger.

The highlight of the year was the “Welcome Home” Convention of the International Chapter (CIC) held in Des Moines, September 12-14, 2019. Thirty-three New Jersey sisters attended the celebration which started with the New Jersey State Dinner on September 11. Fourteen PSPs, four delegates, three state board officers and twelve visitors from New Jersey attended.

New Jersey was recognized at the CIC in September for being one of the states who completed (and exceeded) the 150 Fund challenge of having 100% chapter participation in donations to the fund.

A biography and photo of our Uretta Hinkhouse was featured in the Heritage Gallery at the Des Moines convention as New Jersey’s representative of “a woman who changed P.E.O. and moved the Sisterhood forward.”

The end of program year 2020 will be the year we will all recall the need to practice social distancing to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. This pandemic has resulted in the International Board having to make the difficult decision to cancel all of the S/P/D conventions, preventing us from celebrating together all of our accomplishments over the past year.

But we can still celebrate five chapters’ significant anniversaries: Chapter S, Short Hills – 70 years; Chapter AL, Toms River – 50 years; Chapter AM, Pennington – 50 years, Chapter AX – Flemington – 10 years. And we will celebrate that Chapter B, Montclair (who merged with Chapter A in 2012 to form Chapter A-B) was organized 90 years ago in 1930, 12 years before New Jersey had a State Chapter. Resumes of these chapter activities and accomplishments over the last decade were solicited and will be included in the report of convention and entered into the history archive. Certificates celebrating this milestone, created by Carol Hyde, will be sent to the five chapters and we will hopefully sing Happy Birthday to them and next year’s birthday chapters when we can all be together again for the 2021 convention.

And we also remember three other chapters, who were all organized in 1950, who would be celebrating their 70th birthdays had they not disbanded over the years: Chapter T, River Edge (disbanded in 2018), Chapter U, Westfield (disbanded in 2017), and Chapter V, Plainfield (disbanded in 1976).

The next big thing to be added to our second 100-year history will be the organization of Chapter AZ, Medford, which was scheduled to be conducted by International President Brenda Atchison at the Spring Reciprocity meeting that was to be held on March 21. Sadly, it was another gathering that had to be postponed because of the COVID-19 virus. When the organization can be rescheduled, Chapter AZ will be the 52nd chapter to be formed in New Jersey and the last of the double-lettered chapters starting with A.

A summation of this History Committee report will not be able to be given in convention but a copy of the full report will be added to the archives and the written proceedings.

Respectfully submitted by the History Committee
Barbara Battles, PSP, Y
Carol Hyde, A-B
Adviser: Rosemary Seghatoleslami, Secretary

**REPORT OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE CHAPTER
RECIPROCITY BOARD
2019-2020**

The State Reciprocity Board is pleased to report we have been able to meet our goals of having the State Reciprocity Meetings stay exciting and informative.

However, we were again met with challenges as we were ready to transition to a new State Reciprocity Board. The current board's installation was delayed back in March of 2018 due to a late winter snowstorm. It seems as if history is repeating itself, as we now will need to wait until October to make the transition to the new State Reciprocity Board. I guess we were really meant to serve a full 2 year term!

The cancellation of the Spring Reciprocity was certainly a disappointment to all. However, as all P.E.O.'s know, we rolled with the punches and carried on. It was a learning experience that ultimately showed us where we can make improvements. The current board will make some changes to wording in the operations and procedures. We identified a need to ensure the State Reciprocity forms to register are completed with all the requested information. We also continue to finalize plans for Fall Reciprocity 2020. We are happy to have the venue set and have already lined up a speaker! I hope we are all back to our new normal by then.

While we wait for news as to how we can carry on, we do have a new State Reciprocity Board waiting in the wings. I know we will be able to hand over a well-functioning committee. We are excited to offer our help as we complete the transition.

It has been an honor to work with the current board. Nancy McKeen is a wealth of knowledge and a computer wizard. As the Vice Chairman, she kept us on track and was able to complete all the tasks she was asked to do. Our treasurer, Carrie Kennedy did a fantastic job all the time. She really stepped up to the task as she made phone calls and sent emails to make sure all the Sisters registered for the cancelled Reciprocity were aware of how we would be handling the cancellation and returning their payments. Megan Springsted is a wonderful secretary and made all our meetings make sense. Anne Lackland is our meetings coordinator and worked extra hard to make sure the venues we needed were able to accommodate all our needs. It was not an easy task at times. We were fortunate to work with two State Board advisors. We started our term with Pam Cihak and then we transitioned to the new State Board treasurer, Lois Johann. We appreciated all their advice and guidance. I thank all of the Reciprocity Board members for their dedication to the work we did.

I was not sure as I accepted this position that I was up to the task. It was with all the loving concern from my fellow board members that I was able to do all that was needed. I thank them for all they did and want to acknowledge them for their hard work. We truly were able to Let Love Lead!

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Keim, AW, Chairman

**REPORT OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE AMENDMENTS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS COMMITTEE**

2019-2020

The Executive Board of International Chapter has, in consultation with the Parliamentary and Study and Research Committee, developed the guidelines regarding the disposition of proposed 2020 amendments to state chapter bylaws and standing rules. There will be no voting on proposed amendments in 2020. The proposed amendments, which our State Amendments and Recommendations Committee was finalizing for distribution, will be held for consideration at our 2021 State Convention. Any new amendments to state chapter bylaws and standing rules will be addressed according to the deadlines set forth in our state bylaws.

Respectfully submitted by the Amendments and Recommendations Committee

Betsy McKeever, AU

Laura Vriesema, M

Ex-Officio Member: Beth Staples, President