Founders' Day Program With Poetry and Candles

The blessings of our Sisterhood Are in our hearts to stay, So now we light the candles On this, our Founders' Day. Each candle flame's a symbol Of our letters P.E.O. Each one will bring our Founders near As we see the tapers glow. The first we'll light for Hattie Briggs, She of the radiant smile. The joy she brought to P.E.O. Makes all things worth our while. So let her candle represent The happiness, the glow, That each and every chapter needs To make it live and grow.

HATTIE BRIGGS BOUSQUET
Each day is a world made new,
To Franc 'twas truly so.
She was a visionary soul,
Progressive, on the go.
Franc Roads, a student,
A statesman, and an artist too.
As we light her candle let us know
"Each day is a world made new."

FRANC ROADS ELLIOTT

To Alice Bird we owe so much.
She had a lot to give;
She put her heart in P.E.O.
And her contributions live.
She was the literary one;
A scholar, keen and clever.
For what she gave to P.E.O.
May the flame burn bright forever.

ALICE BIRD BABB

Our next is for the lovely one; Brown eyes, pink cheeks and curls. This honored founder, pretty, gay, Was the prettiest of the girls. Suela Pearson wore the crown

Of everlasting youth. Such crown each chapter proudly wears In thought, in deed, in truth.

SUELA PEARSON PENFIELD

Right thoughts, good life, and help to others
Were Ella Stewart's aim.
Though we may never reach the heights,
Our goals are just the same.
To Ella, then, we light the flame,
And ever hopeful be
That we may serve as Ella served,
And be as loved as she.

ELLA STEWART

To Alice Coffin, handsome, tall,
We owe our shining star.
She was the one who said our pin
Should send its light afar.
She was a woman of tact and poise,
Of kindness, courage, heart.
From her we've learned to try to do
More than is just "our part."

ALICE VIRGINIA COFFIN

Sweet Mary Allen loved her friends,
And she was loved in turn.
The seventh candle is for her;
May it kindle, brightly burn.
A charming girl with faith in God
And in her fellow man.
Let us heed the lesson that she taught;
Let us say, "I will, I can"

MARY ALLEN STAFFORD

So now our seven candles burn that we may truly know

The thought, the love, the joy and bliss

That abide in P.E.O.

Source: Adele Axtman, GF, CA., 1994