

GEORGIA FUNDS AND THE P.E.O. FOUNDATION

A 15-minute interactive skit.

CAST:

1 CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR

1 DEVELOPER

PROPS:

2 HARDHATS

2 CELLPHONES

11 SMALL BOXES OF EQUAL SIZE, ALL DIFFERENT COLORS AND LABELED FOR EACH GA FUND

1 BOX LARGE ENOUGH FOR THE 11 SMALL BOXES, LABELED P.E.O. FOUNDATION AND COVERED W/DOLLAR SIGNS

LARGE PIECE OF FABRIC TO CONCEAL CONTENTS OF LARGE BOX

TABLE

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS (e.g. ORANGE CONE, SAWHORSE, BLUEPRINTS)

SETTING:

Developer is off to the side but visible. Construction materials surround the supervisor. The large box is on the table with the small boxes inside and the large piece of fabric covering the box.

The supervisor is shaking her head and looking at the table as the developer looks down on the project from the penthouse.

Phone rings.

SUPERVISOR: Yes, this is _____.

DEVELOPER: What is the problem down there?

SUPERVISOR: I am getting ready to build the Foundation, but from studying the site report as well as existing maps of the property, it appears that this mysterious Foundation already exists.

DEVELOPER: I think you have misunderstood my instructions. I am not asking you to BUILD the Foundation. I want you **locate** it and **learn** everything about it and then **teach** it to others.

SUPERVISOR: OOOOHHHH?

The fabric is removed to reveal the P.E.O. FOUNDATION

SUPERVISOR: So, let's talk about the P.E.O. Foundation and Georgia funds, which, as you learned yesterday from the Scholarship Committee, are ever increasing and making it possible for women to pursue their educational goals. Webster gives one definition of a foundation as

follows: funds given for the permanent support of an institution, and endowment. Hmmmm. So what is an institution?

Well, back to Webster, "a society or corporation, especially of public character, i.e., charitable". Ah ha! Do you see a connection to P.E.O. here? P.E.O. is of course the institution, and the P.E.O. Foundation receives and disburses the funds enabling women to pursue higher education. By funding the education of women, the P.E.O. Foundation is able to permanently support the objects and aims of our Sisterhood. More ah ha and you thought this was going to be boring didn't you?

One question which always comes up is "Why is our money in the Foundation instead of being invested here in Georgia"? Two reasons: First, the Foundation provides a broader investment base when Georgia funds are combined with all the other money in the Foundation, which currently totals over 54 million dollars. Secondly, the P.E.O. Foundation is qualified by the IRS, which means an individual can claim credit on her taxes when making a gift to a fund within the Foundation.

Okay, we have now unveiled the mysterious P.E.O. Foundation and we know it exists and what its purpose is, now let's learn how Georgia is related. Did you know that as of 2000 there were 11 Georgia funds in the P.E.O. Foundation? I thought it would be interesting to briefly examine each fund and help you understand why it was created.

Before we start, there are several points to note about all Georgia Scholarships awarded by the Georgia Scholarship Committee,

Applicants must have a minimum grade point average (gpa) of 3.0, and they must be residents of Georgia.

The Georgia Scholarship Committee follows all requirements as set by the P.E.O. Foundation.

The state scholarship chairman sends information on all recommended recipients to the trustees of the P.E.O. Foundation for their review and approval before the awards may be made at convention each year.

Each fund also has an operating statement that must be followed.

Hmmmm operating statement Sounds financial to me.

Each fund in the P.E.O. Foundation has an operating statement, which simply identifies how the fund came to be, the year, any restrictions, ie. preference to a Cottey student first., and what will happen to the money should the fund cease to exist. So, let's learn about Georgia's funds.

[Note: As you start to discuss each Georgia fund, reach into the Foundation box and bring out another box, which will represent that particular fund.]

Georgia Scholarship Endowment Fund the 1988 convention of Georgia State Chapter voted to establish a scholarship fund in the P.E.O. Foundation from unused Ruth Tabor Fox Scholarship Funds to be named the Georgia Scholarship Endowment Fund. In 2000, Georgia State Chapter voted that the first scholarship awarded from this fund is to be named the Ruth Tabor Fox Scholarship. So, who qualifies for a scholarship from this fund? Recipients are residents of Georgia, sponsored by Georgia Chapters and have been accepted for admission to Cottey College, or a school in Georgia.

Frances Paxon Edwards Memorial Scholarship Fund this fund was established by W.T. Edwards, in 1985, in memory of his wife, Frances, who was a member of Chapter N. This fund is our oldest fund, and when he made the gift to establish the fund, Mr. Edwards stated that he wished the income to be used for scholarships whose initial selection would be the responsibility of the scholarship committee of Georgia State Chapter working within the policies of the P.E.O. Foundation. There are no restrictions on the college to be attended so this scholarship may be for attendance at Cottey or any other college. Preference is given to qualified applicants sponsored by Chapter N.

Ellinor O'Malley Scholarship Fund this was established by Jean H. Lindlief, P.S.P, member of AF and more recently of Chapter BA, in 1988, in remembrance of her mother, Ellinor O'Malley, Chapter AF, a member of P.E.O. for more than 71 years! Scholarships from income earned are awarded to women to assist them in attending the college of their choice, including Cottey College.

Mary F. DeBartola Memorial Scholarship Fund members of Chapter Z established this fund in 1990 with gifts from Chapter Z, Chapter W, and past state presidents. This fund honors Frances J. DeBartola, a former member of Chapter Z and currently a member of Chapter AY, and past state president of Georgia State Chapter. It is in memory of her mother, Mary. Scholarships are awarded from annual income to female high school graduates to attend any accredited college or university of choice. A qualified applicant recommended by Chapter Z shall be given first consideration for a Mary F. DeBartola Scholarship.

Peake, Hutchison, Tinkey Scholarship Fund established in 1994 through gifts from children, other family members, and friends, including members of Chapter I, Macon, in honor of Ann H. Peake, a member of Chapter I and past state president of Georgia State Chapter. There are many names listed in this scholarship and for some of our newer Georgia members, let's tie these names to Ann Peake. Mabel Hutchison was Ann's mother. Ella Peake was Ann's mother-in-law and a charter member of Chapter I, and Julia Peake Tinkey was Ann's sister-in-law, and also a member of Chapter I. This fund provides scholarships for women from Georgia to attend the college of their choice.

Georgia Chapter X Scholarship Fund this was established in 1992 from gifts given by Chapter X members honoring Alice Carlson and Dorothy Henninger, Chapter X members who have served as president of Georgia State Chapter. This fund provides an annual scholarship for a woman to attend a college of her choice, including Cottey College.

Margaret Waddell Peters Scholarship Fund members of Chapter F, Atlanta established this fund in 1996 with a bequest from Margaret Waddell Peters estate added later. Margaret Waddell Peters, charter member of Chapter F was instrumental in establishing P.E.O. in Georgia. She served as the first organizer of Georgia State Chapter. Annual income from the fund is to provide scholarships for female high school graduates to attend a college of her choice with no restriction as to field of study. Preference is given to qualified applicants sponsored by Chapter F.

Priscilla Boskoff Scholarship Fund members of Chapter C, established this fund in 1994 with gifts made in honor of Priscilla S. Boskoff, a longtime member of Chapter C and a past state president of Georgia State Chapter. Annual income from the fund is to provide scholarships for female high school graduates to attend the college of their choice with no restriction as to field of study. Preference is given to qualified applicants sponsored by Chapter C.

Now here's another one of those scholarships that's hard to figure out the connection.

Chapter R Pat Rubey Cottey Scholarship Fund hmmm more mysteries uncovered here! So, we know Chapter R, we know Pat Rubey, and of course if it is related to the Rubey family, you can bet it is related to Cottey! This fund was established in 1996 through gifts from member of Chapter R, and from Bob Rubey, Pat's B.I.L., honoring Patricia G. Rubey, Chapter R, and president of Georgia State Chapter, 1996-1997. Annual income from the fund provides scholarships for female high school graduates from Georgia to attend Cottey College. If there are no qualified students attending Cottey, then the scholarship may be used at the college of the recipient's choice. Preference is given to qualified applicants sponsored by Chapter R.

Georgia Past State Presidents Scholarship Fund members of Chapter AV, Roswell, established this fund in 1999 with gifts honoring former president of Georgia State Chapter, Kathleen S. White, AV. Annual income from the fund provides scholarships for female high school graduates, residents of Georgia, demonstrating high standards of academic excellence to attend the college of their choice with no restrictions as to field of study. This fund honors all past state presidents.

Chapter AB Memorial Scholarship Fund members of Chapter AB, Cumming, established this fund in 2000. Contributions and donations to this fund have been made in honor or memory of persons close to the members of Chapter AB. Annual income from the fund is to provide scholarships for female high school graduates to attend the college of their choice with no restriction as to field of study. Preference is given to qualified applicants sponsored by Chapter AB.

S, what does all this mean?

There are currently 18 Georgia funds in the P.E.O. Foundation. (Seven have been added since the writing of this program.) Funds = dollars right? Foundation funds means more dollars working together to provide more scholarship money. And look at how we have grown seven new funds since 2000! (See list below.)

I encourage all Georgia chapters to sponsor applicants for all of these funds.

I hope this clears up the mysteries surrounding the P.E.O. Foundation

New funds:

Dottie S. Stagg Scholarship Fund (the 12th Georgia Fund in the Foundation)

The following funds are listed under Georgia-Related Funds in the Foundation:

Elsie Naomi Myers Memorial Fund

Evelyn Borg Elvin I.P.S. Fund

Nancy F. Morgan Scholarship Fund (PCE)

Chapter G Cottey Memorial Scholarship Fund

Betty Cook Karrh Memorial P.E.O. Scholar Awards Fund

Frances Blankenship Memorial Scholarship Fund (PCE)

GA Chapter AW 10th Anniversary Scholarship Fund

Lealan D.P. LaRoche Scholarship

Source: Laura E. DeMars, A, 2002