**PAST STATE PRESIDENT QUESTIONNAIRE**

**(Please use the tab key between entries)**

|  Name: |   Wendy James    |
| --- | --- |
| Years Served on State or Provincial Board: |   2019 - 2023    |
| Years presided as president: |   2022 - 2023    |
| What was Your Theme? |   Live in a P.E.O. World - Imagine!    |
| What were you contemplating when you selected this theme? |
|     I hoped to encourage our sisters to think outside the P.E.O. box and to spread the good news about P.E.O. by letting our light shine in our communities.  |
| What was the central message of your acceptance speech as President? (You might quote from your speech – or just reflect on it) |
|      ”What if the entire state sisterhood purposefully, intentionally, took our “influence in the community” to a whole new level. What if we began focusing on our communities to really share the good news about P.E.O. and I kept imagining the effect that would have on our membership, and our project recipients, and our entire sisterhood.” |
| As you wrapped up your Presidency you had thoughts: what were they? (You might quote from your speech – or just reflect on it) |
| Serving on this Executive Board taught me the true meaning of the P.E.O. sisterhood. From my fellow board sisters to each and every chapter sister from across the state that I got to know over the years, each and every one of them exemplified our love for each other and our dedication to our projects.  |
| Please list an accomplishment (or two) from your tenure on the board. |
|      Thanks to social media I was able to observe throughout my year as president many of the Alabama chapters that were participating in events in their communities in order to spread the good news about P.E.O. It warmed my heart to see my sisters at festivals, walkathons, and the like, having conversations about all that we do. I can only IMAGINE how many more women now know about P.E.O. |
| Briefly – what does P.E.O. mean to you? |
|      Alone I can only do so much, but with the amazing organization of P.E.O. International and my chapter sisters I can have a larger impact helping other women reach their educational goals. |
| Briefly – can you provide a personal philosophy about philanthropy in P.E.O.? |
|      I can change other women's lives through our projects. And what fun it is to work with my sisters to raise funds! |
| When/where did you become a P.E.O.? |
|     In 2010 I joined Chapter C, Mobile, Al.   |
| To which chapters have you belonged? |
|      I have recently moved across state and transferred from Chapter C, Mobile, to Alabama's newest Chapter AP, Gadsden. |
| What offices have you held in the local chapter?  |
|   President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary     |
| Since your Executive Board experience, what have you done in P.E.O.?  |
|    I have supported the forming of our newest chapter AP and I am in charge of The Celebration of Life at our upcoming convention.    |
| Please list your Education, Employment, Family members, Family who are P.E.O.s, Interests, Activities outside P.E.O.: |
|   My first year of retirement has been a busy one. Moving to Guntersville and getting to know my new community has been a joy. I learned that bird watching is not for me but I am hooked (excuse the pun) on Fly Fishing! I look forward to many hours on the shores of Lake Guntersville with my husband and our family.    |
| Is there anything else you’d like to add?  |
|      My P.E.O. sisters have been one of my life's greatest blessings.  |