**PAST STATE PRESIDENT QUESTIONNAIRE**

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

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| Name: | Shirley Paramore | | | |
| Years Served on State or Provincial Board: | | | | 5 |
| Years served as President | | | 1 | |
| What was Your Theme? | | Pursue Every Opportunity | | |
| What were you contemplating when you selected this theme? | | | | |
| I was reading an article regarding all the opportunities we miss in making our cities better, and I started thinking of how we should take advantage of opportunities given to us and realized I could use the letters P E O to reflect how I felt about opportunities in P.E.O. | | | | |
| What was the central message of your acceptance speech as President? (You might quote from your speech – or just reflect on it) | | | | |
| We are given so many opportunities every day and we should pursue them: serve God, be with family, serve others, spend time with friends, and be thankful for these opportunities. Also, being a P.E.O. is an opportunity to pursue our mission to celebrate women, educate women, and to motivate women. | | | | |
| As you wrapped up your Presidency you had thoughts: what were they? (You might quote from your speech – or just reflect on it) | | | | |
| I learned just how fantastic the chapters in Alabama are to Pursue Every Opportunity. I found how special these sisters are for I see something in each of them that let me know I wanted them for a sister. These chapters wrote me stories of how they searched for women they felt needed help to further their education, how the sisters worked together for fundraising for donating to our philanthropies, and how their chapter expressed a loving concern for each sister. Truly, P.E.O. sisters work diligently to Pursue Every Opportunity. | | | | |
| Please list an accomplishment (or two) from your tenure on the board. | | | | |
| First, I was able to initiate my mother and my daughter as P.E.O.’s which was a great highlight of my life to share the gift of P.E.O. with them. Also, I was able to be a part of organizing two new chapters in Alabama, AL and AM, being Organizer as we installed Chapter AM. | | | | |
| Briefly – what does P.E.O. mean to you? | | | | |
| P.E.O. gives me the opportunity to help other women and to also be a recipient of their loving concern. It means that we may all be on a different journey, we may all be at different stages of our life, but we all believe and share the same virtues of P.E.O. We are all on the same mission to celebrate, educate, and motivate women. | | | | |
| Briefly – can you provide a personal philosophy about philanthropy in P.E.O.? | | | | |
| Even though our monies support six different philanthropies, we all have our favorites. Each one has a purpose in supporting women pursuing different area of education. One of my favorites is PCE as my daughter-in-law received this grant as she pursued her teaching degree on-line. I am fortunate to have a scholarship named in my honor as part of the P.E.O. Foundation of which several young women have been a recipient of monies for her education. | | | | |
| When/where did you become a P.E.O.? | | | | |
| I became P.E.O. in Chapter CH in Dayton, Ohio in October, 1999. | | | | |
| To which chapters have you belonged? | | | | |
| I have belonged to Chapter CH in Dayton, Ohio, Chapter T, Birmingham, and am now a member of Chapter V, Ozark, | | | | |
| What offices have you held in the local chapter? | | | | |
| In Chapter T in Birmingham I served as Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, and President. | | | | |
| Since your Executive Board experience, what have you done in P.E.O.? | | | | |
| I served as Celebration of Life Chair, Nominating Chair for two years, Cottey Chair, Scholar Committee for two years and the Membership Committee for four years. | | | | |
| Please list your Education, Employment, Family members, Family who are P.E.O.s, Interests, Activities outside P.E.O.: | | | | |
| Bachelor’s degree from Troy University in Math, Accounting Degree from York College of Pennsylvania. CPA in Public Accounting in York, PA for 13 years, and CPA with Crowne Partners, Inc in Birmingham for 17 years, retiring in 2017. My husband (Wade) and I have a son, Jason (wife Rose Mary) son-in-law, Ward and five grandchildren, Skye, Jett, Trey (wife Rylie), Aspen, and Logan. My mother, Frances Graham and my daughter, Dr. Christy Edwards were initiated in Chapter T in 2015. They both entered Chapter Eternal in 2018. I have a cousin who is a P.E.O. I enjoy reading and listening to books, walking our goldendoodle, Zoe, and traveling. | | | | |
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| After God, my family, and my church, P.E.O. has been the center of my life for the past 25 years. It has been the foundation of making friends and keeping my life stable and on track. Belonging to an organization that can help so many women is an opportunity for which I am so thankful. | | | | |