This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City. If you would like more information, please contact us at kansascity@shsmo.org

**Introduction**
Approximately 3.5 cubic feet.

The collection consists chiefly of the minutes and reports of the Kansas City PEO. Also included is a history of PEO, lists of presidents and officers, membership directories, state convention programs, and slides and program notes of Cottey College.

The P.E.O. Sisterhood, a women’s educational and philanthropic club, was founded on January 21, 1869, at Iowa Wesleyan College. At that time, there were almost no societies for women. The founders, Hattie Briggs, Franc Rhodes, Mary Allen, Allie Coffin, Suela Pearson, Allie Bird, and Ella Stewart, decided upon an oath, a constitution and a name for their society. Their desire to participate in the organization of women began the club movement among women. Thus the P.E.O. Sisterhood was one of the pioneer societies for women. “P.E.O. exists to be a source of encouragement and support for women to realize their potential in whatever worthwhile endeavor they choose.”

Although P.E.O. chapters were initially college chapters, as its members grew older and retained their memberships, town chapters evolved. Over time, chapters were formed throughout the United States. By 1923, there were thirty-one thousand members and the organization had an educational philanthropy with an investment of two hundred thousand dollars.

The first chapter in Kansas City was formed in 1893. In 1894, the Missouri State Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood was organized.

**Donor Information**

This gift was received from Carol Reed as accession KA0989 on April 10, 1998. Accession KA2000 was received from Joyce McIntosh on January 30, 2012, and accession KA2202 on April 15, 2014.

**Box List**

**Box 1**

*RECORDING SECRETARY’S BOOKS*

Item 1. November 1916-October 1921

Item 2. May 1925-March 1930

Item 3. April 1930-February 1936
Item 4. March 1936-April 1941
Item 5. April 1941-March 1947
Item 6. March 1947-September 1953
Item 7. October 1953-February 1960
Item 8. March 1960-April 1964

MINUTES/ PRESIDENT’S BOOK
Item 10. President’s Book, 1938-?

Box 2

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS
Folder 1. The Story of PEO, 1869-1923

Box 3 (KA2000)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS
Folder 1. Donor paperwork-Western Historical Manuscript Collection-KC (State Historical Society of Missouri-Research Center-K.C.), 1998
Folder 2. Greater Kansas City Reciprocity Group, directories 1995, 2003
Folder 3. Correspondence, 1988-1991
Folder 4. By-Laws, P.E.O. Cooperative Board of Kansas City, 1919, 1936
Folder 7. Historic Communications, miscellaneous, 1926-1997
Folder 11. Annual President’s Reports, 1958-1999
Folder 13. Treasurer’s Reports, 1926-1994
Folder 15. Cottey College, 1951, 1987-1991; includes 1951 letters concerning admitting Negro girls
Folder 17. Inspiration Day / Founders Day, 1953-1993
Folder 20. Rental Contract-Second Presbyterian Church, 1976
Item 24. Box containing: Cottey College slides and program notes (1970s – early 1990s)

Box 4 (KA2202)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Folder 1. Reports, Arrangements Committee, 1983-2003
Folder 2. Reports, Auditing Committee, 1982-2003
Folder 3. Reports, Budget & Financing Committee, 1984-2003
Folder 5. Reports, Cottey College Committee, 1983-2004
Folder 6. Reports, Courtesy Committee, 1981-2002
Folder 10. Reports, Mary D. Lawrence Scholarship Committee, 1992-2003
Folder 11. Reports, Nominating Committee, 1992-1999
Folder 13. Reports, President, 2000-2003, 2012-2013
Folder 15. Reports, Secretary (Recording & Corresponding), 1997-2003
Folder 16. Reports, Telephone/Calling Committee, 1983-2003
Folder 17. Reports, Treasurer, 1994-2006, 2012-2013
Folder 18. Reports, Unaffiliate Committee (lists), 1991-2003
Folder 19. Reports, Vice-President, 1997 & 2002
Folder 20. Convention, 1993
Folder 21. Convention program, Missouri State Chapter, Cape Girardeau MO, 2003
Folder 22. Convention proceedings, Missouri State Chapter, St. Louis & Columbia, Missouri, 2009-2010
Folder 24. Meeting place (Second Presbyterian Church), 1990 & 1995
Folder 25. Officer and delegate rosters, 1991-2003
Folder 27. Meeting minutes/agendas, 1998-2003
Folder 28. Meeting minutes/agendas, 2012-2013
Folder 33. Miscellaneous documents (procedure guide for nominating chairman), 1982-2003
Folder 34. Johnson and Wyandotte Counties Reciprocity, 1993-1995

**KC P.E.O. RECIPROCITY REPORTS, MINUTES & ROSTERS**

Folder 35. 2003-2004
Folder 36. 2004-2005
Folder 37. 2005-2006
Folder 38. 2006-2007
Folder 39. 2007-2008
Folder 40. 2008-2009
Folder 41. 2009-2010
Folder 42.  2010-2011