



July 2018

Dear Chapter and State Leaders,

It is my honor to welcome many new chapter presidents to the first year of your biennium. We learned at our Training for Chapter Leaders in Belleville and Ottawa that more than 25 of our chapter presidents are new to this position. Congratulations for accepting this leadership role and your state leaders promise to support you every step of the way! For many of you this mailing is a regular part of the state's effort to communicate important information to you to share with members, but for others, this is a first. Please indulge me as I walk you through what you can expect each month.

Each month you will receive a "monthly mailing". It holds a letter from me, one from Kammie Richter, Lambda State Executive Assistant, and other important documents from committee chairs. You are encouraged to put these documents on a jump drive and/or print for your files. If you have not sent Kammie your Chapter Leader form, then you will need to forward designated documents to your chapter committee chair. If you have sent the form to Kammie then she will send it for you! How is that for motivation to get it to us. I have attached it for your convenience. You can email or snail mail – your choice. I will reference and/or explain each form in the mailing, so you know what to do with it. It is important that you set aside a time each month to read through every document as there are deadlines and information for you to share with your members at meetings or in your own chapter newsletter. If anything is unclear, PLEASE contact Kammie or me so we can help you.

You will also receive an email mid-month in a "chapter check-up". That is typically words of encouragement, a short you-tube, or some other type of motivational tool for you to reflect on and/or share with your members.

I want to thank all of you who participated in our Training for Chapter Leaders in Belleville and Ottawa. We had a record turnout to the meetings. Thanks to Linda

Adcock and her incredible team for organizing this exceptional event that began with a genuine welcome at the door which was followed by a healthy breakfast and a special thank you to all the ladies who helped with this – we so appreciated your hospitality and smiling faces. Linda then provided us with the opportunity to develop goals in the four areas of focus this biennium – Programs, Professional Development, Membership and Marketing. We worked with other chapter members, discussing what we might propose to our members and then several ladies shared what is working in their chapters with all of us. It was a fantastic experience! We then adjourned to meet with our job-alike state leaders to learn the "nuts and bolts" of the role. Each attendee was provided with a jump drive with all the presentations so that she can better understand the roles and responsibilities of all the chapter leaders. Please take the time to review the information and/or share with your members.

Important things to check off your list:

Chapter president 2016-2018 should complete a chapter history and submit to Lou Ann Jacobs, Lambda State Historian. I have attached it for your convenience. Thank you.

Please share the Lambda State Calendar with your members and if you wish, include it in your yearbook. I have attached the list of Lambda State Leaders for you to include in your yearbook. After the International Convention I will send you the new list of all the International Leaders for your yearbook.

Visitation from the State Ambassador – most of the ambassadors received training last week so you should expect a call or email from them to discuss your chapter visit. You will have time to meet face to face at the September Executive Board Meeting on Friday, September 21. I know many of you are working but if you can be at the meeting by 7:30 p.m. I think you will find the meeting very valuable and insightful. Each Ambassador has received the goals you wrote at the TCL but we know those are subject to change based on your conversations with your members. It will be a nice point to begin your discussion of what your chapter would like to achieve in the four areas mentioned above. You are also encouraged to bring your concerns - remember this is a two-year relationship that we hope will last a lifetime. Each of us is here to help one another so collaboration and a positive attitude for growth is essential to our success as a state. Please mark your calendar for the Executive Board Meeting September 21-22, 2018 at the Airport Holiday Inn in Bloomington. We typically begin around 7:00 p.m. Friday night and conclude around 9:00 or 9:30. We begin Saturday with our Executive Board Meeting (of which all of you are a member as a chapter president) at 8:00 a.m. and conclude between 11:00 a.m.-noon. The meeting may be longer this year because of the need to explain and discuss the changes in the International Constitution and Standing Rules.

State Committee Chairs – please email me to schedule your summer/fall Go-To-Meetings.

Joan Rog, Membership Chair, offers wise tips from members of her committee for all of us consider, reflect, and act upon. Please share with your members as you begin planning chapter activities.

Britta Peterson and her outstanding committee have provided the final of the Lambda State Bylaws and Rules for your use.

Gwen Simmons, our International Parliamentarian, and our most recent Society Representative at our state convention, asked me to share this invitation with all of you. Please note there is a deadline for registration of August 1, 2018.

International Convention is a few weeks away and will be held in Austin, Texas, the home of our organization. I hope to see many of you there – I will let you know when our state picture is scheduled for and plan on a state gathering Thursday, July 19 around 5:00 p.m. Details will be forthcoming.

Finally, many of you know that LaVonne Chaney, past state president, lost her beloved husband Ron to cancer last week. She is extremely grateful to her sisters for their support at this time. A donation in his name to Honor Flight was made by Lambda Sate.

Carol Hughes, past state president, shared news that her husband Pete is recovering slowly from his open-heart surgery. He is recovering as expected but it is slow. He was transferred to the Advocate Eureka Hospital where he continues to improve and progress in rehab. With fingers crossed, he will be released July 2 to their home for continued therapy and special equipment which will serve him well. It is a slow but steady process, and everyone is grateful for the team of people in the health care field who are making it possible for him to experience a longer life with her, their family, and friends!

I am at your service anytime. Do not hesitate to contact me at <u>pres.lambda.ilstate@gmail.com</u> or <u>dleblancedd@gmail.com</u> or by telephone, 630-247-2060.

All the best, Debbie LeBlanc