



To enhance and promote the expertise of government meeting professionals.

July 2020

Hello SGMP Louisiana members and friends!

I hope you are finding the time to disconnect and enjoy some of what Louisiana has to offer during the [hot] summer months. Let's face it, the past few months have been nothing but challenging. As much as we are concerned for and taking care of those around us, we must also remember to practice self-care. I recently took a short trip with my husband and parents to Dauphin Island. It was just what I needed to recharge my batteries and reobtain my focus.

Our Board is diligently working to ensure we are staying connected with our membership and have a pulse on our chapter needs.

- Shawn, Hospitality Chair, and I are reaching out to each member individually to check in. It is important to us to know how each of you are doing and how we can help. We are also collecting a little data to help us to better recognize and honor our membership.
- Several members responded to our Annual Membership Survey indicating an interest in becoming more active and volunteering with the chapter. We will be reaching out to you in August to honor those requests and get you engaged.
- Our Board is meeting this Wednesday for our Annual Board Retreat. We will be setting our yearly budget and strategic plan for our chapter. Equally as important, we have been drafting a Chapter Policy Manual. During our retreat we will be finalizing the language. Our plan is to have the manual posted to our website in time for our September Education Session.
- We are continuing to plan an Education Session each month. We are adhering to the Governor's Proclamations for social distancing and gatherings. We'd really love nothing more than to get back to in-person luncheons. For now, our education will be offered virtually at a standard rate of \$15 for all members and guests.
- Our Treasurer position on our Board is vacant. I will be reaching out to possible candidates to fill the vacancy later this week. If, however, you are interested and would like to know more, feel free to reach out to me directly. The position must be filled by a Supplier.

Joie de vivre!

LeAnna Toups-Bennett, CGMP

SGMP Louisiana Chapter President