

# Illinois Voice

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

ICCCTSO	2
National Update	3
Meet Your Officers	4



## President's Note

### Welcome Illinois Phi Beta Lambda!

I am truly looking forward to the 2009-2010 Phi Beta Lambda year! Our officer team is working very hard to make this year "Simply the Best!" The team has developed an intense program of work that will make Illinois bigger and better, and we will once again be using the Adopt-a-Chapter Program. This means that every chapter has an officer who will send monthly e-mails and respond to any of your needs. Currently, the state officer team is planning for the Fall Seminar Series. I

encourage every chapter to attend this event. The seminar series was revamped last year and received great reviews. It will be held at McKendree University on Saturday, October 24. This is a great opportunity to meet the state officer team, attend workshops, and network with students from across the state. Also, I would like to challenge you to take on an active leadership role in your local chapter. Even if you are not a local officer, you can be an active member! Help with the recruitment efforts and attend local, state, and national events. Phi Beta

Lambda has so many opportunities to offer members, and by participating and sharing your experiences with your peers, you can help bring this organization to new heights! Also, refer to the website ([www.il-fblapbl.org](http://www.il-fblapbl.org)) and find other ways to get involved including the Ambassador Program and the Career Membership Achievement Program. Last, but not least, the officer team is here to help you. Do not hesitate to contact one of us if you have any questions or concerns. If we continue to communicate, this year will be a success!

Nicki Wilhelm

## Upcoming Events

October 24—Fall Seminar Series at McKendree University  
November 6-7—National Fall Leadership Conference at Baltimore  
November 13-14—National Fall Leadership Conference at Denver  
November 20-2—National Fall Leadership Conference at Orlando

## State Officers Attend ICCCTSO

The Illinois Coordinating Council for Career and Technical Student Organizations was an experience like no other. The ICCCTSO started on Friday, September 11, 2009 and ended Sunday, September 13, 2009, in Springfield, Illinois. The groups attending ICCCTSO were Phi Beta Lambda, Future Business Leaders of America, HOSA, SkillsUSA, and DECA. The groups consisted of high school and college students from all areas in the state of Illinois along with their advisers. Patty Hendrickson, Professional Speaker, was the presenter.

The three days consisted of four – two hour leadership sessions that helped improve students' leadership development by performing activities such as team building, a number of team challenges, and presentations. Students

were assigned to groups and given a task to create a group name and perform a skit to present their team name.

The ICCCTSO guest speakers were David Mouser and Rhett Laubach. Both speakers shared their inspiring personal stories with students. Rhett Laubach had students perform group self awareness activities, such as the little- lot activity, where students would answer questions by walking to either side of the room that contained the lot sign or little sign.

Students were also able to tour the Governor's Mansion and eat a fabulous three-course meal at the Governor's Mansion along with being taught Etiquette, by Patty Hendrickson. Later, students were able to walk around the State Capitol building and sit in the Senate Chamber while learning Parliamentary

Procedure with Jennifer McGillivray, Esquire. Students debated on current issues such as Chicago being our State Capital and the legality of locker checks for drugs at schools.

The end of ICCCTSO consisted of a goal setting activity called I Will. There were two awards that were given by Patty Hendrickson--the Inspirational Award and the Enthusiasm Award. The closing of the ICCCTSO was a group interaction activity where everyone had a necklace consisting of tieable threads. An individual would tie their thread on another person's necklace and while making a positive comment about them. The ICCCTSO helped build new friendship but also it helped every individual have a greater desire to achieve new heights.

## What's Ahead of PBL? By Gloria Lau, National President

Kicking off a new school year, how about some new and exciting goals for our organization? Your PBL National Officer Team has set numerous goals this year, and we are delighted to share some of them with you! *"Simply the Best"* year begins with ALL OF US!

### The Road to 13,000

13,000 PBL members is an ambitious goal set by your PBL National Officer Team. It's never an easy goal. But there's nothing that would take PBL away from achieving something big. Getting new chapters and new members across the country will definitely do the trick. What if the state(s) with the greatest *percentage* increase in membership will receive priority seating at the PBL National Leadership Conference Opening Session or Award Ceremony in Nashville, TN? Can you imagine sitting in the front of the ballroom watching the shows?

### National Officer at Your Local Chapter Meeting

With technology advancing on a daily basis, why not utilizing some of the fancy electronic tools available to us? Several weeks ago, I attended a local PBL chapter meeting in Alaska via web camera! I was able to speak to the entire group about membership benefits, conferences, and competitive events and really got to know the members on a personal level. A web camera, a computer, and an Instant Messaging program (Skype, MSN, GTalk) is all you need. Talk to one of your national officers, and we will be happy to arrange a "visit" to your chapter virtually!

### Facebook!

Check out the many resources on the national Phi Beta Lambda group on facebook. It provides many resources, from the Promotional Video to link to the Region Webpages. Most of all, it serves as an exclusive community that allows you to connect with other PBL members from across the country. Stay tuned on facebook and search for "Phi Beta Lambda"!

PBL, it's that time of the year again – membership and recruiting! We can't wait to see the great things we can all accomplish this year. It's challenging, but celebration only comes with determination, commitment, and hard work. Let's get ready for what is sure to be *"Simply the Best"* year!



*"13,000 PBL members is an ambitious goal set by your PBL National Officer Team."*

## Phi Beta Lambda Big Ten

### By Jake Barreau, National Parliamentarian

Hey PBL Members!

With the school year under way, recruitment is in full effect. I hope that everyone is having a very successful year thus far with regards to retaining old members and recruiting new ones.

That being said, PBL will be starting its "PBL Big 10" program on October 1. Through this, the top ten largest local chapters will be recognized on the national website ([www.fbld-pbl.org](http://www.fbld-pbl.org)). These rankings will be updated weekly! Who will be on top? Will UW-Madison reign again with its 485 members last year? Or will it be Johnson & Wales with its 250 members? Maybe it will be your chapter?!

Get out there and start recruiting, and as always your National Officer team is here to offer any help, advice, guidance, and support that we possibly can! Let's make this year "Simply the Best!"



## Meet Your State Officers



Welcome to the 2009-2010 Illinois Phi Beta Lambda year! I am Nicki Wilhelm, and I will be serving a second term as your Illinois Phi Beta Lambda President. I am currently a senior at McKendree University earning a degree in Accounting and Marketing, and I work at the Kilian Corporation as an Accounts Payable Clerk. In addition to Phi Beta Lambda, I am a member of Phi Kappa Phi and Sigma Beta Delta. I am also a student member of the American Business Women's Association. Phi Beta Lambda has become a major aspect of my college experience. I was a member of FBLA during high school, and I continued to pursue the benefits of FBLA-PBL during college. This will be my sixth year in the organization, and I have served numerous leadership roles throughout the years. In addition to Illinois President, I will be serving as the Co-President at McKendree University in 2009-2010. I want the members to know that I believe in the power of this organization. FBLA-PBL offers invaluable opportunities from improving your leadership and networking skills to having the chance to travel to state and national leadership conferences and compete against your peers while hearing speakers from all over the country. I know that the upcoming officer team is ready to serve you to the best of our ability. I look forward to achieving our goals, and I hope the members of Illinois Phi Beta Lambda are ready for another exciting year. If we work together, I know that Illinois PBL can strive to be "Simply the Best!"



Welcome to the 2009-2010 Illinois Phi Beta Lambda year! My name is Michael Kennedy and it is a great honor to serve you as your Illinois Phi Beta Lambda State Vice President. I am from Peoria , IL and currently work as a Guest Service Agent at a hotel in East Peoria . I am currently at Illinois Central College (ICC) as a business administration major. I got my Associates in Arts & Science in the summer of 2008 and I am currently taking bridge classes there. I have been a part of this organization for three years. In that time, I've been the ICC chapter's Vice President in the Fall of 2007, President from Spring 2008-present and I have been a State Ambassador. Phi Beta Lambda has been a huge part at where I am now in school and life, and I want to be able to help you in knowing what you can do to



Illinois Phi Beta Lambda, my name is Edd Cockrell and I will be serving as your 2009-2010 State Secretary. This year will be a success with the help from each and every one of you. I am currently enrolled at Southwestern Illinois College , where I am working towards a degree in Political Science and Marketing. This past year was my first year with FBLA-PBL, where I served as Freshman Vice President for the SWIC PBL. I am also the Representative in the SWIC Student Leadership Group for Phi Beta Lambda. This year will be "Simply the Best". I challenge every member in Illinois Phi Beta Lambda to explore the unknown and work hard to make not only each of your chapters the best they can be, but also Illinois Phi Beta Lambda as a whole. Walt Disney once said, "All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them." I encourage everyone to pursue you dreams. Thank you once again for allowing me to serve as your 2009-2010 State Secretary and I hope to see you soon.



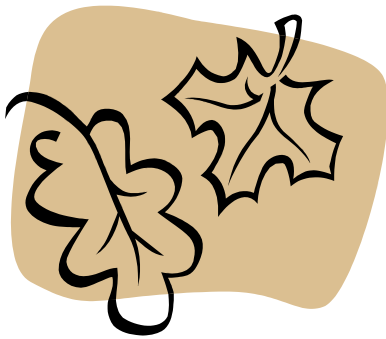
Welcome Illinois Phi Beta Lambda to the 2009-2010 year! I am Kyle Pruden and I will be serving as your Illinois Phi Beta Lambda State Treasurer this year. I am looking forward to working with everyone this year and keeping Illinois one of the best states in the country in PBL! I am currently attending Eastern Illinois University and obtaining a Bachelor's degree in Journalism with a Political Science minor, and will be a senior during the 2009-2010 year. I served as President of EIU PBL during the spring 2009 semester and will be President again this fall. I attended Kaskaskia College for two years, where I became really involved in PBL my second year. I served as KC's Vice President of PBL and got to attend the NLC in Atlanta, where I placed 8th in the nation in desktop publishing as a team. This will be my third year involved with PBL and I have really enjoyed being a part of this organization and meeting so many people from around the country, while competing in events and holding fundraisers. I look forward to working with IL PBL members this year and am hoping for a great year as your IL PBL State Treasurer!



Greeting Illinois Phi Beta Lambda members! My name is Emily Eilermann and I look forward to serving as your 2009-2010 Parliamentarian. I am entering my senior year at McKendree University, where I am majoring in Accounting and Management. I am also Co-President of our local PBL chapter this year. I have been involved in FBLA-PBL since my senior year of high school. PBL has made a big difference in my life, as it provides great experiences and many wonderful opportunities. As a state officer, I plan to share my enriching experiences with others in an effort to recruit new members to this awesome organization. I sincerely want to make this the best year for our current members. I encourage everyone to get involved, make the most of this year, and be *simply the best* !



## Fall Seminar Series Schedule



The Fall Seminar Series will be held on October 24, 2009, at McKendree University in Lebanon, Illinois. Workshop topics will include finance, resumes/cover letters, FBLA-PBL programs, and interviewing. The schedule for the Seminar Series is below:

9:30-10 a.m.	Registration
10-10:50 a.m.	Board Meeting (Campus Tour option)
11-11:50 a.m.	Workshops (choose between two)
12:12:50 p.m.	Lunch (provided by McKendree University Admissions)
1-1:50 p.m.	Workshops (choose between two)
2-2:45 p.m.	Business Person Panel

**RSVPs are due to PBL State President Nicki Wilhelm (nwilhelm06@hotmail.com) by Thursday, October 15, 2009.**

**Visit Illinois Phi Beta Lambda at [www.il-fblapbl.org](http://www.il-fblapbl.org).**