

## REGINA DIOCESAN PAST PRESIDENT/ARCHIVES COMMUNIQUE #1 - September, 2017

**To: Parish Council Past Presidents/Archivists**  
**From: Lynn Rogers**

*"Faith comes alive when the Word read from the page becomes the Word heard in your heart." Rex Rouis*

Greetings to all Past Presidents and a special welcome to those who join me in our new role as **council consultant, archivist, and facilitator of the study and implementation of the Constitution and Bylaws**. It is not my intention to scare you, but to make you aware that we have not been put 'out to pasture' or 'relegated to the back of the meeting room'! We are still needed, and hopefully wanted, on the council executive. We are there to encourage, advise and affirm the new president as well as all council members. National has available a *Handbook for Past Presidents* (\$3) or it can be copied from the website (10 pages).

As council archivists you are responsible to keep minutes, annual reports, photo albums, scrapbooks, and any significant materials in a safe place in your church or parish office. The secretary should only keep 3 terms or 6 years of minutes in her binder(s). Treasurer accounts should be kept for 7 years. An index of all materials should be kept. All archives should be stored in filing cabinets or Rubbermaid tubs or something similar so as to protect them. (Refer to the handbook for further information.) If none of this has been done it could be a daunting task so strike up a committee and have an archival party or several of them and have fun delving into the history of your council. Who knows what you might learn!

Please ensure that your council has the latest edition of the *Constitution and Bylaws 2013* and try to incorporate a small portion of parts of the book that members might not be very familiar with, into each meeting. You could have some fun with it and each month following a mini lesson, you could have a little quiz on what you reviewed (finish the sentence, name 2 things, etc.). You could put the name of each member who could answer the question(s) into a draw and have a prize at the Christmas gathering or in June before you break for the summer. **OR** members could be encouraged to purchase a copy (\$3) and sections for discussion could be read previous to a meeting. There are many ways to learn about this **League guidebook**. Let me know what creative ideas your council comes up with.

"Let your love of the League shine through your own particular gifts and the Holy Spirit will make the rest fall into place." (*Barb Dowding, National Past President, February 7, 2017*)