



Great Lakes Grapevine

NAP District Four

Volume 8, Number 1

Greetings from your Director:



*Joyce Brown-Watkins
District Four Director*

Recap of 40th NAP Convention

It was so good seeing those of you that attended the 40th NAP Convention held in Arlington, VA. Witnessing the conducting of the business meetings and attending some very interesting workshops was absolutely rewarding. Even a late night tour was breathtaking.

Having the opportunity to be a part of amending the bylaws was special. Watching the procedure used is one way of preparing ourselves to embark on actually using some of the techniques in our units. There were good and not so good techniques demonstrated, yet it is up to us to review RONR and increase our bylaw knowledge. There were workshops for everyone with excellent presenters and topics.

Between amending the bylaws at the business meetings we engaged in the election of officers for the 2015-2017 biennium. Congratulations to Mary Randolph, PRP, our new president and to our own Jim Jones, PRP, vice president. Mary and Jim were present at our District Four Conference earlier in the year and offered not only excellent information in preparation for the convention, but each also offered an educational workshop.

Now to what is most important at this time. Congratulations on showing up and standing out at the convention. Thank you for your show of support and vote of confidence in electing your district director to serve on the National Association of Parliamentarians® Board of Directors as one of two district directors. Members are asked to share with the district director those things im-

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portant to you that you feel should be addressed at the NAP Board of Directors meetings. Your district director will be your voice, so make sure there is something to be said.

And what did you do in Arlington...

Dear to my heart were visits to the Vietnam and Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorials. That's not to say the other memorials were not enjoyable, but these two memorials were personal to your district director. Please share your memories with us all.



10 Tips for Recruiting and Retaining Members

1. *Fellowship* – Laugh, talk, and have fun together. Get together outside of meetings.
2. *Food* – Provide snacks or a lite meal if members come to the meetings from work.
3. *Friendship* – Be friendly and welcoming to new members and each other.
4. *Family* – Encourage your family to participate.
5. *Frequency* – As much as possible meet at the same intervals, time and place for each session.
6. *Faith* – Believe in mission of the unit and support its goals.
7. *Fun* – Have fun at your meetings, events and activities. Everyone loves entertainment.
8. *Freedom* – Provide freedom of choice. Be flexible and allow lots of input from members.
9. *Forgiveness* – If your motion doesn't pass or your idea is rejected by the body don't hold grudges.
10. *Formality* – Have a specific meeting time and place; follow the agenda; adhere to the bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order.

Rhonda Clark Randall

Taken from District Six Newsletter - Fall 2014



Association News:

Ohio Association

The Ohio Association of Parliamentarians is making plans for their two day meeting in 2016. The dates will be April 15-16, 2016 to be held at the Northland Masonic Temple located at 5885 Cleveland Ave, Columbus Ohio. The theme of the meeting will be “Meeting the Needs of Local Groups”. Registration fee will be \$30. Workshops to be determined.



Unit News:

Detroit - Michigan

The Detroit Unit of the National Association of Parliamentarians held its annual workshop, “All Things Done Decently and Orderly According to Henry M. Robert, III,” on Saturday, May 23rd at the Charles H Ellis Conference Center, Greater Grace Temple, in Detroit. Presentations by President Jewel Johnson Jones, RP, Vivian Tansil, and Julia Boayue, PRP were very well received.

Students from Detroit’s Breithaupt Career and Technical Center were on hand to demonstrate their parliamentary skills used to capture both first and second place in statewide SkillsUSA parliamentary procedure competitions. The first place team was honored and are shown with Governor Rick Snyder following the final competition held in Lansing. The first place team advanced to compete in national SkillsUSA competitions held in Tennessee.

Kudos to Mrs. Angel Glenn, Lead Instructor at Breithaupt; and, to Rev. Robert Neal and Julia Boayue, PRP from the Detroit Unit who coached the winning teams. Congratulations!

Also, in recognition of April as Parliamentary Law month, on Thursday, April 30th from 6-7p.m. the Detroit Unit of the National Association of Parliamentarians, in cooperation with the Michigan State Association of Parliamentarians (MSAP), Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett’s Office, and several other loyal supporters, hosted a small dessert re-ception. and gifted four (4) books about Robert’s Rules of Order and parliamentary procedures, at the Chaney Branch of the Detroit Library.

The presentation of two (2) copies of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised (11th edition) were gifted in memory of Mrs. Grace Banks and Ms. Ola Bush who were members of both the Detroit Unit and Michigan State Association of Parliamentarians. Two (2) copies of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised in Brief (2nd edition) were gifted in memory of Baba Chimba Omari and DaVante Lawson. DaVante Lawson attended parliamentary procedure youth workshops sponsored by MSAP and was a student at Southwestern High School, and member of the Patton Recreation Center Teen Council.

The event is representative of the Detroit Unit’s collective and continuing efforts promoting the vision of the National Association of Parliamentarians, to “provide parliamentary leadership to the world.”



Unit News *(continued)*

Louise Saks Parliamentary - Michigan

One of the most delightful aspects of attending this convention was having friends there, a full contingent of unit delegates! There were lessons to be learned around every corner, some in workshops and private conversations and many in business meetings.

There were bylaws proposed that would have changed NAP considerably but before we could deal with the twenty-two proposals we began with basics—credential report, convention standing rules, and adoption of the program. In spite of snafus with credentials during the registration process in which LSPU among many other units who had sent their delegate lists by the deadline were not on record, the credentials report was approved without amendment.

The convention standing rules were quite another matter. There were several unusual ones, including one that made all questions of privilege be submitted to the convention coordinator, not to the presiding officer as privileged motions. The convention coordinator opposed this option as well as a number of people who wondered about losing their vote in the event a keypad didn't work or they couldn't locate the convention coordinator.

In all, seven of the thirteen standing rules were pulled for individual consideration, and though people later groused about the hours it took to approve the standing rules, the objections raised to them had a major impact on the running of the entire convention, especially in relation to the election rules. In the same way, a change in the program that put the election before the bylaws consideration, was significant.

“Only” sixteen of the bylaw amendments were handled before the convention adjourned. The assembly did approve having the two directors who will serve on the Board, being elected by the entire assembly.

The proposal to have an annual membership meeting rather than a convention did not pass. The proposal to require the president and vice-president to have had five years of consecutive PRP status along with having served two terms on the Board did not pass. The proposal to eliminate the membership exam as a qualification for being an NAP member did not pass. The proposal for a national provisional member did not pass. The limitation on the president and vice-president serving one term remains in the bylaws.

President Ann Guiberson was an able presider who graciously accepted challenges to her decisions, especially when made by two authors of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly-Revised*.



Kalamazoo Parliamentary Law - Michigan

Julie Pioch's interim position as district coordinator for Michigan State University Extension's seven-county District 13 has been made permanent, effective September 1. Pioch has served as the interim district coordinator since November 2014. The district is made up of Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and Van Buren counties.

Patrick Cudney, Extension associate director of operations, said Pioch brings strengths in local government, leadership, and management and a successful track record as an educator and interim district coordinator to the job.

Before stepping into her interim role, Pioch had served as an MSU Extension educator since 1994, specializing in government and public policy and in leadership, community, and economic development. She is the vice president of the Michigan State Association of Parliamentarians, and served as past president of the Paw Paw Area Chamber of Commerce.

KPLU is proud of Julie!



Coming Events

NAP

NAP Training Conference
Broomfield, CO
August 26-28, 2016

NAP Convention
Lombard, IL
September 8-11, 2017

DISTRICT

District Conference
2017 - Madison, WI

Illinois
Annual Meeting
2016 - TBA

Indiana
Annual Meeting
2016 - TBA

Michigan
Annual Meeting
April 9, 2016

Ohio
Annual Meeting
April 15-16, 2016
Columbus, OH

Ontario
AGM - TBA

Wisconsin
Annual Meeting
2016 - TBA

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In Memorium



This space

still

reserved for

news of

your

Unit

or

Association!



From the editor...

This edition of the *Great Lakes Grapevine* is the first this biennium. It is reflective of the news contributed by each association and some units. As you can see, there is a lack of information from many of the associations and units. Your editor sends messages to each association president, and a reminder, but they are busy people. Therefore, she is now asking members to contribute articles. Every unit and association has something to contribute, but no one will know about it if it's not communicated. The next newsletter will be published in the spring of 2016. Don't wait to contribute. Do it now. Your district director and editor will thank you for it and publish the news so that others will know what's happening in your corner of the district.

The holidays are rapidly approaching and your editor hopes all will enjoy time with friends and family during this festive time of year. Don't forget to pay your NAP and association dues when you receive your dues notice. If paid when the notice is received, you won't forget to do so and the district will have retained all of its members.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!



Wisdom is knowing what to do next,
skill is knowing how to do it, and
virtue is doing it!

David Starr Jordan