



NEW YORK ASSOCIATION of Parliamentarians

Bulletin Board Winter 2008

Some high-lights follow courtesy of NYAP Treasurer Helene Goldsmith, PRP. concerning The NAP National Training Conference held September 12-14, 2008 in Virginia Beach, VA.

Report on NAP NTC 9/12-14/08
Virginia Beach, VA

At the District One meeting the following were announced:

1. Mass. & RI will be chartered as an association in October
2. There is a new unit in Conn.
3. A youth group has formed at Cornell Univ.
4. District One Conference will be April 17-19, 2009 at the Holiday Inn in Somerset, NJ

During the NAP meeting the following were announced:

1. NAP Convention Sept. 11-14, 2009 San Francisco, CA \$119 in effect 3 days before and after
 2. NTC August 27-29, 2010 St. Paul, Minnesota
 3. NAP Convention September 23-26, 2011 St Petersburg, FL
 4. NTC 2012 Phoenix, AZ
 5. There are 567 credentialed members of NAP
 6. 50 Attended the Leadership Conference with 26 associations represented
 7. March 1 is the deadline to submit Bylaw amendments to NAP
 8. January 1 is the deadline for sending information to the NAP nominating committee
 9. 30 workshops were presented
- During the general session we heard from T. Page Johnson who spoke on "Designating the President Quadrennial Adventures with the Electoral College"
 - He gave out a pretest with 11 multiple choice questions as well as the answers which I haven't gone over as yet. It looks like it might make a good program for LDRP.
 - Johnson talked about parliamentarians knowing about voting and election procedures and indicated none are anywhere as complex as the "election" or rather as he referred it "designated" the president rather than by popular vote.

I attended the following workshops:

1. Effective Presiding by Frank Fitzgerald – he went over the process of handling motions and tips on presiding
2. Why Use Robert's Rules? Let's Dump It – by Darlene Allen doesn't advocate dumping RONR – discussed when and why to use it
3. Running Amuck: Abuse of Authority of officers, boards and members by Scott M. Burns – his thrust was to abuse authority you must know your rights – he talked about abusing rules not authority
4. Whose Right is it Anyway? By Gladys Reed who discussed the rights of membership, presiding officers and organization

On one of the slides she had the following "Freedom is the right to be wrong, not the right to do wrong" by John G. Diefenbaker - each of her slides were documented with the page in RONR

She ended with a series of questions that could be used as another program.

5. Ten Best Time Saver's in RONR by Michael Pick who discussed:

- the use of a consent calendar so that members can pull out important issues to be discussed
- setting a priority agenda, not necessarily following RONR which was written years ago
- seconding only when you really want to discuss something otherwise let it die
- using recess to write a motion, to substitute a motion, to caucus, to organize for or against debate

6. Leadership Boards and Committees – Captain of My Ship by Jim Jones

- who spoke of working boards that implement policy as opposed to governance board that make policy
- committees implement, consider, investigate or take action based on their charge.
- We had to decide whether it should be staff, board or committee that should handle certain situations.
- One of his slides showed a group around a table with the caption "Individually we could do nothing. So we formed a committee which determined nothing could be done".

Report on the 2008 NAP Leadership Conference

Mark Schilansky, PRP, CPP-T

On September 10, 11 and 12, 2008 I had the pleasure of attending the National Association of Parliamentarians Leadership Conference at the Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach, VA. The theme of the conference was "Charting the course to association success." The conference gave me the opportunity to network with representatives from associations from around the country.

The conference started with a welcome from NAP President Connie Deford. Next, Bob Dolan taught us how to navigate the newly updated NAP website. Ronald Stinson, NAP vice-president discussed membership retention and extension, Sarah Nieft, NAP Executive Director reviewed the services that NAP headquarters can provide to the associations. Committee chairmen presented programs on educational resources (Ann Guiberson), Credentialing (Chris Dickey and John Remple) and public relations / marketing (Carl Silverman).

We were treated to excellent workshops that focused on improving our leadership skills. The instructors were Jim Jones, Nancy Sylvester, Mary Randolph and K. Ann McCartney.

The associations then shared ideas that had worked in their home states. I shared how New York has "Cram for the Exam" workshops followed by membership exams at most programs. This was well received. The Texas Association shared an idea that we may want to try in New York. TAP provides a state -wide program teaching school board members parliamentary procedure. In Texas, school board members must attend continuing education programs given by certified

organizations. The Texas Association of parliamentarians is certified to provide this required CE.

The Leadership Conference was an excellent event and I suggest that NYAP be represented every year!

Meeting: The New York Association Board decided to hold the 2009 Biennial Meeting in conjunction with the District One Conference which will be held in Somerset, NJ the weekend of April 17-19, 2009. One order of business will be the election of new officers. Please contact Lenny Briggs, Orphelia Dorch or Fran Kulik if interested in serving as an officer of NYAP. The office of District One Director will also be decided.

Congratulations: Joan H. Corbisiero, Douglastown, New PRP
Daniel Fitzpatrick, Peekskill, New RP

Welcome New Members: Victoria Ying, Rose Sconiers, Blay Tarnoff, Loretta Finck,
Daniel Fitzgerald, Carol Schilansky

We were much saddened to learn of the passing of one of our long time members, Mary Fiumano. Mary was one of those persons who are an inspiration to all. I met her in 1996 in Albany at the chartering of NYAP. At that time, all I knew was CP, PRP, CC-T, whatever was a bunch of letters from the alphabet. She encouraged me to sit for the membership exam although I knew I couldn't pass it. But, I did. Thank you, Mary.

New: District Two is proposing an amendment to the NAP Bylaws committee concerning aligning our professional credentialing in similarity to other professional groups.

I had the privilege of trying the new online membership exam. It was great to get instant feedback.

A happy, healthy, safe and prosperous New Year to all.
Hope to see you in April.

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