



Great Lakes Grapevine

NAP District Four

Volume 7, Number 5

Greetings from your Director:



Joyce Brown-Watkins
District Four Director

*From District Four Conference
to the
40th Biennial Convention*

Taking Steps to Create Your Future

Congratulations to District Four members on a very successful District Conference! From an excellent venue to fantastic presenters, participants were engaged in extraordinary educational workshops. Workshop presenters were well prepared and had a vast amount of information to share with all in attendance.

Over the two-day session we were privileged to have NAP Vice President, Mary Randolph, PRP opening the workshops with *The Roles of a Parliamentarian*, followed by our gifted district members presenting excellent topics such as, *First Responders Kit for Parliamentarians*, by Robert Schuck, RP President, Wisconsin Association of Parliamentarians; *Building Your Business as a Parliamentarian*, by Dr. R. Richard Tribble, PRP from Illinois Association of Parliamentarians; *Check Out These Charts: A Tidy Technique to Teach Secondary Motions*, by Judith Reynolds, PRP from Illinois Association of Parliamentarians; and *Board Members Behaving Badly*, by Julia Boayue, PRP and Tom DeMeritt, RP of Michigan State Association of Parliamentarians. As expected, NAP Director at-large, Jim Jones, RP, CCP-T peaked our interest with his *Fifty Shades of Gray: Parliamentarians Painting Off the Palette* work session along with a very informative NAP update.

The participation from the states in our district was phenomenal. All but one state was represented at the conference. We look forward to communicating and networking with all of our members.

(continued on page 2)

In This Issue

In Memorium
pg. 2

Association News
pg. 3

Tracking Secondary Motions:
Revisited
pg. 3

"Parliamentarian
is In"
(wrap-up)
pg. 4

Unit News
pg. 5

From the Editor
pg. 7

Greetings from your Director (continued)

District Four truly took the first “Step to Create Your Future.” Now is the time to take the next step, the 40th Biennial Convention. The convention is being held in Arlington, VA September 4 – 7, 2015 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel. If you have not registered please do so as soon as possible. There is much to be gained as well as much to do at convention including the election of our future leaders; parliamentarians that will not only lead but also help NAP grow. Your support of district candidates shows the strength in our district.

All members should have received two pieces of information from headquarters that include NAP Body of Knowledge and the Proposed Bylaws and Standing Rules Amendments. Be sure to read these documents closely and note any questions you may have to be shared at your association and/or unit meetings as well as at convention. Your District Director is proud of how knowledgeable members in our district are. Keep up the good work.

Congratulations to all newly elected Association and Unit officers. Your District Director is looking forward to working with you over the next two years. Please send a copy of your planned meetings and workshops to the District Director as well as our newsletter editor, Patricia Dolan at PEDolan@aol.com to be shared throughout the district.

Your District Director would like to thank district members for your show of support in re-electing her to serve during the 2015 – 2017 biennium. The success of the past two years is a direct reflection of the support given to the director and the next two years are looked forward to with great anticipation.

Special thanks to Julie Pioch, PRP who served as Conference Chairman along with Betty Weston and the Kalamazoo Parliamentary Law Unit for their planning and hosting of our conference. Thank you!

See you in Arlington September 4 – 7, 2015!

**In Memorium**

Marie B. Palmer, PRP-R
Illinois Association

Mary F. Unser
Illinois Association

Corinne Walker
Indiana State Association

Grace H. Banks, PRP-R
Michigan State Association

Richard Haynor
Michigan State Association

Suzanne H. Pederson, RP
Michigan State Association



Association News:

Indiana State Association

The Indiana State Association of Parliamentarians held its Annual Meeting in April 2015 in Speedway, IN and elected new officers for the coming year. Elected were:

President	Hazel Clark
Vice President	Eva Mae Board
Treasurer	Edward L. Frazier
Secretary	Curtis J. Guynn

They are joined by officers in each of the three units:

Bob Leiman Unit

President	Thomas Haller
Vice President	Donald B. Wilkins
Treasurer	Barbara J. White
Secretary	Bernice E. Wilkins

Calumet Unit

President	Michael W. Griffin
Treasurer	Carolyn Borchardt
Secretary	Jo Ann Manes

Indianapolis Unit

President	Debra A. Cooper
Vice President	Mary Lou Bernard
Treasurer	Curtis J. Guynn
Secretary	Verna Washington

The Bob Leiman Unit meets on the third Mon-day of the month, the Calumet Unit on the fourth Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., and the Indianapolis Unit on the third Monday from 5 - 7 p.m.



Wisconsin Association

The Wisconsin Association of Parliamentarians held its 56th Annual Membership Convention in Winter, WI on May 1, 2015, and then presented a public leadership seminar on May 2 which was a repeat of a workshop given earlier in the year in the Milwaukee area. Robert Schuck, RP, continues as president of the association.



Tracking Secondary Motions: Revisited

A couple years ago I developed a chart to help me through the presiding and parliamentary demonstration segments of the *Professional Recertification Course* in Oregon.

Since then I've tried to find a practical side apart from "extreme" parliamentary situations such as those which materialize at parliamentary youth competitions, parliamentary workshops, NAP conventions, and NAP certification courses.

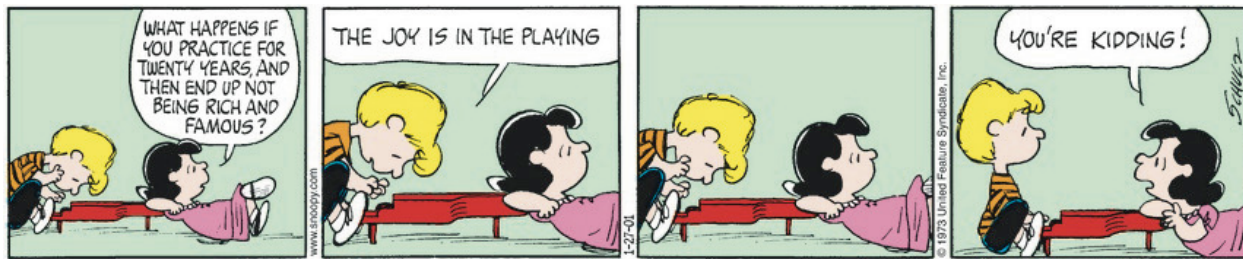
After some successes and failures, what has evolved involves scripts, charts, and writing minutes.

In April 2015 I was privileged to test the charts again at the NAP District Four Biennial Conference in New Buffalo, MI. Two scenarios and charts are printed in the *National Parliamentarian*, 1st Quarter 2015. You may create scripts for these scenarios and then have a hand at writing the minutes. For correct presider language, start with the tinted pages in *Robert's Rules of Order in Brief*.

Electronic copies of the 15 page handout from the district conference are available by contacting me at: ronnr@sbcglobal.net.

Happy charting!

Judith L. Reynolds, PRP



THE PARLIAMENTARIAN IS IN

The Kalamazoo Parliamentary Law Unit was honored and delighted to host the 2015 joint conference of NAP District Four and the Michigan State Association of Parliamentarians Annual Meeting. Attending were National Association of Parliamentarians representatives: Mary Randolph, NAP Vice President and James Jones, NAP Director at Large; Past NAP President Maurice Henderson and our District Four and MSAP Leaders.

The Peanuts Gang was busy overseeing the details and arrangements at a beautiful facility in New Buffalo, Michigan.

As Lucy questions Schroeder:

"What happens if you practice for twenty years and then end up not being rich and famous?"

We must agree with Schroeder's wise reply:

"The joy is in the playing"

Let us not forget the enthusiasm we put into learning opportunities, hours parliamentarians put into the study, and the joy that is attained with serving. The study during the weekend added to that joy.

Just as the philosophy that Charlie Brown expresses, "in the book of life the answers are not in the back," our philosophy will not get us into trouble if we follow the rules of parliamentary procedure.

As Charlie, Schroeder and Lucy have discovered the joy of music and the philosophy of life, let us continue to discover the joy of parliamentary study.



Unit News

Louise Saks Unit



President Barbara Bonsignore called the meeting to order.

The Louise Saks Parliamentary Unit (LSPU) had its annual meeting on May 19, 2015 at the Village Club in Bloomfield Hills. Though there was important business to transact, the group first had its lesson for the day ***How to Be a Better Board (Not Bored) Member.***

Member Dianne Bostic-Robinson who consults with not-for-profit boards as well as serving as a skilled leader in many community organizations advised the group on practices that keep boards fresh and active, staying true to their goals as organizations. Then LSPU members put on their Garden Gnome Society hats and worked through some of the Society's recent fictional events and considered how they could have been improved and what should be the focus for the coming year.

Full of enthusiasm for their beloved garden gnome ornaments the Society members offered creative options for a lively future of promoting the imposh, colorful ceramic decorations. Why did the evaluation and planning work so well? Dianne had done several things to make the work fun and easy including the following:



Dianne Bostic-Robinson laid out good board principles.

- She asked specific questions for the members to answer.
- She gave clear instructions on how long to discuss and what would be desired outcomes.
- She encouraged freedom of expression and welcomed all responses.
- She expected good results and had connected her expectations with her presentation.



NAP District IV Director Joyce Brown-Watkins Installs Officers

2015 LSPU Officers are

President Gretchen Denton
Vice-president Dianne Bostic-Robinson
Recording Secretary (pro tem) Eleanor "Coco" Siewert
Treasurer Dot Martin
Corresponding Secretary Vesta DeRiso

The next LSPU regular meeting will be 9:30 a.m. September 15, 2015 at the First Presbyterian Church, 1669 West Maple in Birmingham.



Genesee Area Unit

New officers for 2015 - 2017 are:

President	Thomas DeMeritt, RP
Vice President	Joan Wagner, RP
Treasurer	Steven Britton, PRP
Secretary	Carolyn Stubbs, PRP

Coming Events**NAP**

Biennial Convention
Arlington, VA
September 4-7, 2015

NAP Training
Conference
Colorado Springs, CO
2016

DISTRICT

District Conference
2017 - TBA

Illinois
Annual Meeting
2015 - TBA

Indiana
Annual Meeting
2016 - TBA

Michigan
Annual Meeting
2016 - TBA

Ohio
Annual Meeting
2015 - TBA

Ontario
AGM - TBA

Wisconsin
Annual Meeting
2016 - TBA

Contact Info

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This
space
reserved
for
the
news
of
your
unit
or
association

**From the editor...**

This edition of the *Great Lakes Grapevine* is in addition to the twice yearly publication expected by NAP. District Director Joyce Brown-Watkins and your editor knew there were exciting things going on in each unit and association throughout the district. We wanted to share that news with everyone in District Four as well as other districts who receive this newsletter. We greatly appreciate those who contributed news for this edition. We hope the rest of the units will contribute to the next newsletter, due out in November 2015.

A newsletter is only as good as the news in it and your editor relies on each unit and association to inform her of the highlights. Look at the information contained in this edition and see if you can find something to contribute for the November issue.

In the meantime, don't forget to register for the NAP Biennial Convention in Arlington, VA if you have not already done so. It will be an interesting convention with some very important issues to be decided.

See you there!

*If you want to form a new habit,
work hard. If you want to break
a bad habit, work harder.*

Marie T. Freeman