

Greetings.

I am Greg Goodwiller, and I have just been elected by the District III State Association Presidents to be your District Director for the remainder of this biennium. Because you are parliamentarians, I will add that the election was in accordance with Article IV, Section 2B5 of the National Association of Parliamentarians® (NAP) Bylaws.

Nancy Dauster, as you may know, has resigned as District Director due to health issues. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers, and join me in thanking her for her service to NAP and District III.

By way of introduction, I am a Presbyterian minister, and serve as the Executive Presbyter and Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of St. Andrew, PC(USA), which is composed of sixty congregations in north Mississippi. I am a relative newcomer to NAP. I joined the organization in 2006, took the Registration exam in 2010, and the Professional Registration Exam in 2011. My primary involvement at the national level has been with NAP's use of technology. I chaired a Special Committee on Webinars in the last biennium, and was also involved with Board of Director's transition to electronic meetings. In this biennium, I have been named President Ann Guiberson's Technical Advisor, and am often the "man behind the curtain" helping with logins and technical issues in NAP webinars, electronic meetings, and recertification courses.

In addition to a few duties in the Mississippi Association (we have only been a chartered state association since 2009), I am also an Affiliate Member of the Tennessee Beta Unit, attending when I can and presenting unit lessons on occasion.

When I'm asked about what exactly an association of parliamentarians is and does, I tell them it is an organization dedicated to what it means to be an organization – a club about being a club, with meetings about how to hold meetings! And as a career church professional who attends meetings of one sort or another on pretty much a daily basis, I can say with confidence that we are needed!

It's membership renewal time. First of all, let me strongly encourage you to write that check and remain an NAP member for 2015 (actually, you can complete the transaction online at the NAP store!). But more than that, I want to encourage you get involved in NAP – go to the next membership level, attend the 2015 convention (September 4 – 7 in Arlington, Virginia), sponsor an educational event, offer to work with a high school parliamentary competition team. There are plenty of opportunities out there to foster "effective meeting management." And in the pages of this newsletter, you'll hear what your state associations and others have done, and what they are doing and planning.

Finally, mark your calendars for the District III Conference, which will be held in conjunction with the North Carolina Association of Parliamentarians' Annual Convention on Saturday, March 28, 2015 in Raleigh, North Carolina (see more complete details on page 6).

Have a wonderful holiday. I look forward to visiting some of your states in the coming months in my new role, and learning more about your work. ▲



District Director Dr. Greg Goodwiller, PRP

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*“I want to encourage you get involved in NAP – go to the next membership level, attend the 2015 convention, sponsor an educational event, offer to work with a high school parliamentary competition team.”*

*-Greg Goodwiller*

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### **District III Chartered Associations**

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee

### **District III Un-chartered Regions**

Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, Africa and the Caribbean

### NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina Association of Parliamentarians held a study session for its members in September. Henry Jones, Esq., lead a discussion on RONR and North Carolina law. Topics submitted by the membership were also addressed.

NCAP President Tannis F. Nelson recently earned accreditation as a Professional Registered Parliamentarian. Congratulations, Tannis!

#### **NCAP's Annual Meeting**

will be held March 21, 2015 in Raleigh, NC. See page 6 of this newsletter for more details.

### ALABAMA

There is a new Alabama Parliamentarian Unit located in Leeds, AL

Frank W. Little, President  
Central Alabama  
Parliamentary Unity  
205-515-0035  
fwlittle@windstream.net

### MISSISSIPPI

Well, the Mississippi Association of Parliamentarians (MAP) is alive, but struggling with membership. Since chartering in October, 2009, we've definitely had our "ups and downs" with membership.

Early in 2014 MAP began work on getting a joint resolution passed in the Mississippi Legislature designating April as Parliamentary Law Month. Thanks to the efforts of State Representative Hank Zuber of Ocean Springs as the lead sponsor, many other members of the Mississippi Legislature joined in and the resolution was signed in late March, 2015!

MAP's website is up and running, although slightly out-of-date as our "webmaster" moved out of state and we haven't gotten around to getting someone to take over the duties of updating the site. Watch for news and information about our upcoming convention. We will hold our Sixth Annual Convention May 1 & 2, 2015 at the Cabot Lodge in north Jackson, MS. Hotel information, registration information, educational session information and the annual meeting agenda will be posted after February, 2016.

We had a most interesting convention in 2014. Alison Wallis of Louisiana and an associate member of MAP joined us and led an educational session and provided the NAP update. We really enjoyed having Alison join us. She gave us a new and fresh look at ourselves as well as an update on NAP and what might be coming in the future from NAP.

As with most organizations, our recurring challenge is membership. We've been fortunate this past few months to add two (2) new members in the Laurel, MS area. We now have three (3) members there and enough within a reasonable proximity to begin looking at starting our first unit there! Yipeeeeeeee!

We continue to look for opportunities to participate with other organizations both in Mississippi and throughout the country. Educating the public is a serious challenge as can be seen in recent events around our country. As a retired educator, I can really relate to the challenges and the "resistance" of many to listen to reason. Let us all hope and pray for education to become a priority in all communities and that we, as parliamentarians, can assist in the process.

From all of us at MAP, we wish you the best in the coming year – and hope to see you at our annual convention in May!

Becky Rutz, President  
Mississippi Association of Parliamentarians

## FLORIDA

The Florida State Association of Parliamentarians (FSAP) had a booth at another trade show for Community Managers and HOA/Condo Board members. It was held in Orlando, September 26th. FSAP is "Reaching Out" to spread the word of what a parliamentarian is, who we are and how we can help their associations. The FSAP Education Outreach Chairperson, Elizabeth Cogswell, Tim Wynn, PRP, Todd Wynn, Karen Price and Pat Rosenthal were manning the booth for FSAP. This is the third show for the Education Outreach Committee.



*Pat Rosenthal of the FSAP pictured at the Orlando booth.*

## SOUTH CAROLINA

I am happy to report that SCAP will soon have another unit up and going. The Low Country Study Group in Charleston voted on Thursday to pursue organization.

There are three NAP members (Sylvia Arrowwood, RP; Liz Guthridge, PRP, and Carol Rees) who will be joining them. They have several persons who have committed to studying for membership in NAP. I expect them to have met all requirements and be ready to organize sometime in the fall of 2014. Thomas Sheridan and Dan Douglas are the apparent leaders of the group.

The SCAP Annual Meeting is Saturday, April 11, 2015 from 8:30-3:30, at 111 Research Drive in Columbia, SC. Evan Lemoine will attend as the NAP National Representative. Registration fee is \$40 and should be mailed to Louis I Hodges 1114 Berkley Court, West Columbia, SC 29170. Make checks payable to SCAP.



*South Carolina members and President Ann Guiberson, PRP at the National Training Conference in Oklahoma, during August 2014.*

### GEORGIA

## Preparation for a Competition: A Collaborative Effort to Serve Youth

By Pat Summers, RP

### Collaboration to Prepare a Competitive Team

What is a collaborative effort to serve youth? In April 2014, the Georgia Association of Parliamentarians (GAP) President Corliss Baker received a request for training for a Parliamentary Procedures team with eight middle school students. The team wanted to prepare to participate in the National Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) competition. GAP received the request about two months after the team attended the Annual GAP Meeting in February 2014. The team attended the Annual meeting in uniform wearing red blazers. And, they participated actively in discussions. The Family and Consumer Sciences teacher/FCCLA advisor Lillian M. Mitchell from the sixth largest metropolitan Atlanta school district coordinated the venture with GAP so her students would receive expert coaching for the competition.



goal. Further, preliminary information also included a rubric about the team's performance in the FCCLA State Leadership Meeting. The rubric showed having "rich dialogue during their debates" as an area of concern - a concrete source of direction. Now, the training initiative had further clarity in determining areas of focus.

Letting the work begin involved preparing GAP members for their roles tailored to meet the needs of students eager to advance their learning. The Education Committee, chaired by Gloria Cofer, PRP, served in the leadership role to organize the eight-week parliamentary course. Six association members participated in various aspects of the process with several serving as presenters. To deliver parliamentary information, presenters were Corliss Baker, GAP President; Gloria Cofer, PRP; Carol Davis, PRP, Membership Chairperson; Marcia Chandler; and Ray Daniels, GAP Vice President. Pat Summers, RP, GAP Parliamentarian and Dogwood Unit Treasurer, also participated in the process.

### Working with the Advisor

What was the role of the advisor? The advisor sent details that included the students' typical practice schedule with additional sessions for extra practice - impressive! The team wanted to be competitive and they were willing to make an investment to reach their



### Preparation for the Journey

To prepare GAP members for their roles, the Education Committee worked feverishly to clarify expectations, develop a curriculum, and embark on a journey of teaching parliamentary procedure to increase the performance skills of students in grades six through eight. These students were exemplary in their readiness for the journey. They were focused, attentive, interested, prepared and excited about learning parliamentary procedure. They wanted to become better equipped for the challenge that confronted them. These students were ready to work

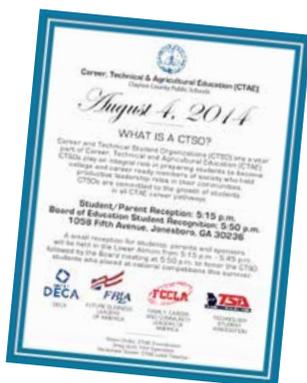
- even to complete homework assignments and other follow-up related to sessions. This group was a highly competitive team in the making.

**Presentation Topics**

Let's review the topics covered: Presentations focused on topics such as Deliberative Assembly and Its Rules; Handling a Motion; and Motions: 13 Ranking Motions. Incidental, Motions that bring business back, and Renewal of Motions. Other areas of instruction included Order of Business/ Conduct of Business: Rules of Debate, Committees, Reports of Officers, Boards and Parliamentary Terminology. While students received theoretical knowledge, the issue surfaced that they wanted more practical application experiences to help them competitively.

**Let's Celebrate!**

The results are in! After eight weeks of sessions, the team traveled to San Antonio, Texas, July 6-10, 2014 for the FCCLA national Leadership Conference and the national STAR events competition. An e-mail from the Education Committee chairman stated, "The team has received a silver medal!! Way to go, Babb!!! We're very proud of them!!" The celebration continued, GAP received an invitation to "Please plan to attend the CCPS Board Meeting on August 4th where all CTAE National Competitors will be recognized." The district-level celebration included a reception for honorees. This event ended another successful event for GAP in paving the way for improving the parliamentary performance of eight middle school students as they celebrated their recognition during the national FCCLA competition. And now the door opens for GAP to respond to a request from another group of students. ▲



**A Workshop:  
Georgia Association of  
Parliamentarians and  
City of Atlanta Neighborhood  
Planning Unit Officers**

By Pat Summers, RP

The Georgia Association of Parliamentarians (GAP) presented a workshop in mid-August for City of Atlanta Neighborhood Planning Units focusing primarily on basic parliamentary skills. The organization worked continuously with GAP President Corliss Baker to arrange parliamentary services for such a receptive group. The Education Committee, chaired by Gloria F. Cofer, PRP, developed the curriculum for the presentation. Seven association members participated in various aspects of the process with several serving as presenters during the five-hour workshop sponsored by the City of Atlanta, Office of Planning, for officers of Neighborhood Planning Units (NPU).

**What are  
Neighborhood Planning Units?**

The City of Atlanta has 25 NPUs which are citizen advisory councils that make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on zoning, land use, and other planning issues. Operating for about 40 years since 1974, the NPU system provides a vehicle for meaningful, two-way communication between citizens and city government. Each NPU meets monthly to consider community concerns. Easy access is available on the city's website which provides detailed

*(continued on next page)*



## GEORGIA

information about officers and NPU meetings as well as the overall operational framework.

### Workshop Participants

Presenters were Corliss Baker, GAP President; Valerie Martin, Historian; Gloria Cofer, PRP; Carol Davis, PRP, Membership Chairperson; and Dennis Conway, PRP. Other GAP members who participated were Ray Daniels GAP Vice President, Pat Summers, RP, Gap Parliamentarian; and Trae Johnson, Dogwood Unit President. More than 50 NPU officers attended the workshop that featured a complimentary breakfast and lunch. For the city of Atlanta, Miltresa McMichael, Neighborhood Planning Unit Coordinator, worked with GAP to plan this very productive workshop.

### Value of Improved Parliamentary Performance

To center the discussion, the workshop emphasized basic procedures for conducting meetings as presiders as well as functioning as officers and as members. Increasing the knowledge base and performance skills of officers helps them increase their capacity to promote more qualitative meetings which encourages more participation and involvement in efforts to serve the local community. The premise was that having more productive meetings would in turn boost the value of sessions for participants as well as increase positive member support. Presentations focused on topics such as Defining Parliamentary



*GAP Members (L-R): Trae Johnson, President Dogwood Unit; Pat Summers, RP, GAP Parliamentarian, Corliss Baker, President, GAP, and Ray Daniels, GAP Vice-President.*

Procedure, Creating a Meeting Agenda, Identifying Responsibilities of Officers, Taking Minutes, Debating Bylaws, and Making and Handling a Motion.

### Questions and Answers Forum

NPU officers were an active part of the workshop with lots of relevant questions to benefit the organization and community members. The Question and Answer forum covered in-depth discussion of issues that NPU meeting presiders and other officers face during meetings. Questions received very specific and practical feedback to assist with challenging concerns. A swirling theme that resonated from questions related to conducting better meetings was the decorum of meeting attendees, along with improving presiding techniques. Participants were eager to receive and absorb knowledge about parliamentary procedures to help them increase their skills in meeting management. ▲

## ***District III Conference Registration!***

The District III Conference, will be held in conjunction with the North Carolina Association of Parliamentarians' Annual Convention on Saturday, March 28, 2015 in Raleigh, North Carolina at the Hilton North Raliegh/Midtown hotel. The fee for registration and lunch is \$28.00. All registrations must be paid in advance and received on or before Friday, March 13, 2015. There will be no onsite registration and no refunds.

### **Checks are to be made payable to NCAP and mailed to:**

Dr. Gwen Simmons, Secretary/Treasurer, NCAP 867 Castleberry Court Vass, NC 28394

The District Meeting will begin at 10:00am Eastern Time and end by 3:00pm. Attendees may fly into Raleigh-Durham airport. The hotel provides a complimentary shuttle; however, it is an approximate 30 minute ride. A block of rooms is being held at \$99 plus taxes per night. Attendees need to make their own reservations by calling 1-919-872-2323, the group code is NCAP.

**Use the link below for an easier reservation process. Simply change the arrival date to reflect your event dates and finish the reservation with a few simple steps. [https://secure3.hilton.com/en\\_US/hi/reservation/book.htm?execution=e1s1](https://secure3.hilton.com/en_US/hi/reservation/book.htm?execution=e1s1)**