Happy New Year!

Thank you to all who renewed their membership for 2019. This is the year we really need our District 8 members to renew so we can all participate in the events of 2019. The deadline for renewal is February 28, 2019. If you haven’t renewed or know someone who hasn’t please see the 2019 Membership Renewal section in this newsletter.

Our friend and colleague, David Mezzera PRP, gives you more incentive to renew and be the best you can be in his article, “The Fork”.

As we mourn the passing of Henry M. Robert III on January 6, 2019, we all remember the first time we met him and think of the times we spent with him. In Remembering Galveston, I share with you an amazing trip with this gentleman.

From day one it has been a privilege to serve as your District Eight Director and as I look forward to all that we have to do this year I realize it will come to an end in September. For anyone who may be interested in running for District 8 Director please see the District Eight standing rules for the procedures for nomination and election to this position.

Yes, I did volunteer our District 8 members to help NSAP with the 2019 NAP 42nd Biennium in Las Vegas September 2019. New on my list of volunteer jobs for District 8 members is Convention Buddies. Take a look at the volunteer jobs and let me know what you will do.

Best Wishes,

Vivian Vincent, PRP
District 8 Director

News from NAP

2019 Membership Renewal

Deadline: February 28, 2019

Renew through the NAP website https://www.parliamentarians.org. Click on Renew Your Membership and click on Renew Now.

You may also call NAP HQ at (816) 833-3892 and renew over the phone using your credit card or request a paper renewal form if you prefer to pay by mail or fax.

MORE FROM NAP

The Legacy Project

You can help NAP build for the future with a contribution to the Building Our Legacy campaign (see details at www.parliamentarians.org/future). This is also a great time to make a donation to the NAP Educational Foundation, which funds parliamentary education program development by NAP and others. Your donation can make a big difference!

NAP Educational Foundation

Did you know associations and units can apply for NAPEF grant funds? Go to the NAPEF’s website www.napef.org to learn about the scholarships and grants available from the Education Foundation. NAPEF scholarships and grants are available to districts, associations, and units for educational materials and programs as well as scholarships for youth.
Upcoming Events

Unit Events

Marvels of Meeting Management Public Workshop
Saturday, February 23, 2019
9:30 AM - 5:30 PM
Mesa Community College
Mesa, Arizona
Sponsored by Arizona Alpha Unit of Parliamentarians
Registration: Contact Mark Ebert PRP mebert3@gmail.com

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Send announcements of coming events in your area 3 months in advance to Maria Trujillo-Tough at mtrujil@gmail.com.

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Reminders

ASSOCIATIONS / UNITS
Please submit the name, address, phone number(s) and email address for any new officer if you have changes during the year to ensure they are on all NAP communication lists.

CERTIFICATION
If you are an RP or PRP and need CEUs by the end of 2019 or 2020 plan to attend the 2019 District 8 Conference meeting and the 2019 NAP convention in Las Vegas. The workshops and other opportunities will give you a big boost in securing your points.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS (CEUs)
The CEU forms are on the NAP website under Documents, Member Resources - Professional Registered Parliamentarians.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!
District 8 has “The Best” volunteers!
Here are a few jobs that need to be done at the 42nd Biennial Convention:

- Convention bag stuffing
- Greeters and Guides
- Workshop facilitators
- Registration
- Meeting Pages
- Function Door Greeters
- NAP on-site office assistance
- NAP on-site bookstore assistance
- General Volunteers: Volunteers on Standby.
- Could you help with technology during workshops?

*Convention Buddies - Meet, greet, and help newcomers. Buddies guide newcomers during the convention on the ins and outs of the events. Make new friends. Be their convention friend, sit with them during general sessions, help them decide the best workshops for their needs, sit with them during meal functions, introduce them to other members, etc.

TO VOLUNTEER or for more information:
Contact Vivian Vincent PRP, District 8 Director via email vkvster@gmail.com. Use D8 Volunteer in the Subject line.
DISTRICT 8 STANDING RULES FOR NOMINATION AND ELECTION

Please note: Our association presidents have been asked to serve as a committee to review, amend, or revise the standing rules document to be adopted at our meeting in Las Vegas in September.

Term of District Eight Director

(“Director”) (NAP Bylaws)
1. Directors shall be elected for a term of two years or until their successors are elected and shall assume office at the close of the NAP convention following their election.
2. Directors may serve for two terms consecutively in the same office.
3. Vacancy in the office of Director (NAP Bylaw): A vacancy shall be filled by the NAP Board of Directors.

Nomination and Election of Director

1. The Director shall be a registered or professional registered member. (NAP Bylaw)
2. The candidate shall have served as an elected state association officer.
3. Name of the candidate shall be submitted and endorsed by candidate’s state association, board of directors, or unit.
4. The name of the candidate shall be mailed to the District Eight Director and postmarked at least three (3) months prior to the start of the district conference business meeting.
5. Nominations for Director may be made from the floor provided qualifications in F-1, F-2, and F-3 have been met.
6. Election to the office of Director shall be by ballot. If there is only one nominee, election may be by voice vote. The election of the Director shall be at the district conference.

In addition to rules in the NAP Bylaws, the Director shall:

1. Provide state association presidents with the district standing rules.
2. Appoint committees as deemed necessary to serve the needs of the district.
3. Mail the official Conference Notice containing the names of endorsed candidates for Director to District Eight members at least forty-five (45) days prior to the District Conference.
4. Approve the budget for the District Conference.
5. Be responsible for and approve all arrangements of the District Conference.
6. Attend state association conventions or annual meeting, if possible, even though it may not be as the official NAP representative.

If you have any question please contact Vivian Vincent, District 8 Director by email vkvyster@gmail.com

In Memoriam

Evelyn Theobald PRP-R
November 19, 2018
ASAP President 1977-1979
Evelyn was a charter member of ASAP. Evelyn is pictured in the first row, first chair, of ASAP photograph with Henry M. Robert III.
ARE YOU THE BEST PARLIAMENTARIAN?
David Mezzera, PRP, Past D-8 Director

17th century philosopher Baruch Spinoza asked: Are you already the best version of yourself that you can be? To paraphrase this in current terms as a District 8 member, are you already the best parliamentarian that you can be? Couldn’t you always be better and do better? How would this be possible?

20th century philosopher (!) Yogi Berra is famous for saying, “When you come to a fork in the road, take it!” When YOU come to a situation where you are asked to decide ‘yes’ or ‘no’ (a fork in the road), how do you decide whether to take it or not? For example, if you are asked as a parliamentarian to help a client review and revise a set of bylaws, do you say ‘yes’ or ‘no’? If ‘yes’ are you qualified to do the job? If ‘no’ what could you possibly do to become more qualified to improve your skills? Are you the best version of yourself? How could you become better?

As a second example, if you are asked to write a parliamentary opinion for a client, do you say ‘yes’ or ‘no’? If ‘yes’ are you really qualified to do the job? If ‘no’ what could you possibly do to become more qualified to improve your skills?

Some D-8 members shy away from taking certain jobs when confronted by the proverbial fork in the road and never push themselves to become a better version of who they are. Or they accept the job without really being qualified to serve the client. Hopefully, each of you are not in either of these positions. Hopefully, each of you can make an effort to become a better version of yourself. But how is this possible along the parliamentary road?

Let’s stick with the two situations mentioned above: bylaws and opinions. Check out the NAP website’s bookstore (parliamentarians.org ===> Store) to see the wealth of educational materials available including Focus on Leadership - Bylaws, Pathways to Proficiency - What Does It Say in the Bylaws? and Pathways to Proficiency - In My Opinion. Or check out the NAP website for Distance Learning opportunities, Web-based courses, Learning Modules, and National meetings (such as the upcoming NAP Biennial Convention right in our own D-8 backyard in Las Vegas coming up in September) to aid in your improvement. There promises to be some great workshops at the convention to help each of you become a better version of yourself! It’s hosted by D-8 so make plans now to attend.

Also, keep your eyes open to the monthly electronic NAP newsletters: Frequent Webinars are held on topics such as bylaws, organizational documents, parliamentary opinions, voting practices, teaching etc., which could help you make more ‘yes’ answers when confronted by that fork in the road.

Do you just want to be a parliamentarian on paper and sit back and never perform as a PL participant? Or do you want to be involved as an active parliamentarian? It’s OK if you’re not the best parliamentarian (yet) that you can be, but you have it in your capability to become a better version of yourself. Take the right fork and keep improving!

Thank You Dave!
A Tribute to Henry M. Robert III

On the last morning of 2012 NTC in Arizona I ask Mr. Robert if he would like to attend the ASAP Annual Meeting being held that afternoon at the hotel. He graciously accepted. ASAP was honored to have Henry M. Robert III attend our Meeting.

As a world renown author Mr. Robert often shared stories from writings left to him by his father and grandfather. Mr Robert’s goals beyond the rules of order was to visit the places his grandfather had written about. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity to stand in his presence as he reached out and touched a piece of the legacy he treasured. It was a privilege to share the story of Mr. Robert and an amazing adventure in an article I wrote for the NP in 2011 and a privilege to share excerpts of that story with you.

REMEMBERING GALVESTON

Galveston - Once In A Lifetime

Author: Vivian Vincent PRP
Excerpts -Published in the NP, Volume 72, No.3, Third Quarter 2011

Off the southeast coast of Texas is an island city named Galveston and a seawall. This was the setting of a new historical event as Henry M. Robert III PRP, grandson of Henry M. Robert, visited for the first time the city and the seawall designed and engineered by his grandfather more than hundred years ago. In the Galveston City Council chambers on May 19, 2011, the Mayor of Galveston, Joe Jaworski, presented Henry M. Robert III with a special proclamation declaring May 19th Henry M Robert Day in honor of his grandfather’s work.

His grandfather led a team of engineers to design and construct a seawall that has saved thousands of lives from hurricanes, raised the level of the city as much as 11 feet, raised homes above ground level protecting them from the ravages of flood waters, and cleared a ship channel making Houston a port for international trade ..... Engineer, John Machol, told us that the Galveston Seawall is considered one the ten wonders of engineering in the world.

Henry Robert III and the NAP members attending the ceremony boarded a bus with Mayor Jaworski and John Machol for the trip to the seawall. The Galveston Police Dept. with flashing lights and sirens blaring escorted us non-stop to the Galveston seawall and the monument recognizing Henry M. Robert. The inscription on the stone monument reads:

‘SEAWALL AND GRADE ELEVATION DESIGNED BY GEN 1 H M ROBERT, ALBERT NOBLE, H C RIPLEY ENGINEERS.’

Two generations later Henry Robert’s grandson stepped onto a piece of the history that is 17 feet above the sea and 16 feet wide. The seawall is even more impressive considering that Seawall Boulevard sits on top if it. Mr. Robert III noted during the dinner that followed the visit to the seawall that in reading letters between his grandfather and the other engineers it was clear that his grandfather had concerns for the massive size of such a project and determined it would require meticulous engineering.

On this day it was as if mother nature was doing her part to give us a sense of what it might have been like hours before the 1900 hurricane that destroyed the island city and the sense of security that those who live on the island today must feel. With winds gusting 32-34 miles per hour (tropical storm winds are 39 mph), waves hitting hard against the rip-rap and seawall, Henry M. Robert III touched the inscription, held
on to the monument and smiled. This ultimate ‘ahhh’ moment, caught in the flashes of camera lights, was the pure essence of this journey.

The day began with a tour of the San Jacinto battlefield. Our tour guide was Texas historian and TSAP member, Dennis Clark PRP. NAP President, Ron Stinson PRP, Henry M. Robert III PRP, Thomas “Burke” Balch PRP, NAP Director at Large, Mary Randolph PRP, AIP Immediate Past President, Jim Jones PRP, and I walked the San Jacinto battlefield to the place of the oak tree where Santa Anna surrendered to Sam Houston after his capture. We toured the history museum and Mr. Robert and the others rode the elevator 567.31 feet to the top of San Jacinto Texas monument.

On Saturday, May 21, Mr. Robert was honored at a luncheon at the TSAP Convention. In his speech he spoke not of his grandfather and the history of the rules of order but of his Great-Grandfather. He told a story that gave us details of his great-grandfather’s life and from that story it was plain to see that General Henry M. Robert was mentored by his father to dedicate his life to the well-being of his country.

The excursion to Galveston, learning about the rich history of the area, and standing on a significant piece of history with a gentleman named Henry M. Robert III was a once in a lifetime experience. It was an extraordinary and wonderful weekend. A special thank you to our NAP President, Ron Stinson, for arranging this incredible journey.

Thank You!
ASAP Annual Meeting, August 18, 2018
Elected Officers (R-L), Marilyn Newman PRP
President, Mark Ebert PRP, Vice President
and Susan Wilson RP, Secretary.

If you have photos of your association events, we would like to share them.
Please send photos, include names and dates to Maria Trujillo-Tough
mvtrujil@gmail.com

District 8 Leadership Contacts

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