

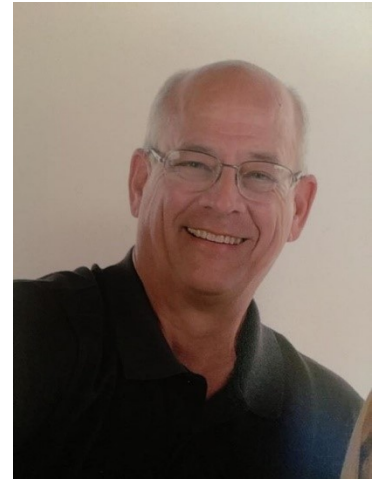
NAP DISTRICT FIVE NOTES

“Each One – Reach One”

The National Association of Parliamentarians©
District Five (5) is made up of the
chartered associations:

Kansas State Association of Parliamentarians
Manitoba Association of Parliamentarians
Minnesota State Association of Parliamentarians
Missouri State Association of Parliamentarians
Nebraska State Association of Parliamentarians

And the unchartered regions of:
Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nunavut,
and Saskatchewan.



Larry D. Martin, PRP, District 5 Director, NAP Board of Directors Representative
Lddsmartin@att.net – 816-550-4429

Beginning Thoughts

Past the NAP National Training Conference, slid right from the Holiday Season, New Year’s resolutions, and into the spring storms, we find ourselves looking toward many of our units and associations planning our annual meetings. I applaud the efforts of each leader within District Five as they continue to make efforts to spread the word of the National Association of Parliamentarians, and more importantly, the tenets of the parliamentary rules we so dearly love.

As the 2017-2019 District Five Director, this member wishes to direct our attention to the 2019 Biennial NAP Convention in Las Vegas, NV, from September 5-8, 2019. Held at the Westgate Hotel in Las Vegas, we wish to note that the convention begins on Thursday and ends on Sunday. This allows NAP members and friends to keep their vacation dates from interrupting two weeks of work, as previous conventions seemed to be involving.

Registration for the convention is on the NAP website and has been sent to all members to get in on the early registration fee of \$399. Many of the breakfasts

and lunches are included in this fee. Something new this convention is the golf outing on September 4 (Wednesday) at the Las Vegas National Golf Club, beginning at 8:00 a.m. Fees are available to rent clubs and is a great opportunity to have family come to the convention without feeling like there is nothing for them to do.

Information should soon be sent out to units and association presidents on the membership luncheon, as we celebrate the fast-growing membership in your areas. Hopefully many will be recognized from the district, as we continue to remind ourselves that “Each One – Reach One” is vital to growth, numerically and expansion of the rules that Roberts’ give.

Thank you in advance for the work you do in the district, and as I applaud your efforts I recognize that without you and your interest in Roberts, the interest in effective meeting management would be naught.

Larry D. Martin, PRP
2017-2019 and 2019-2021 District Five Director

Calendar Updates

UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS

Missouri State 74th Annual Meeting

May 4, 2019 at 12:30 p.m. – location St. Luke’s United Church of Christ, 727 N. Main St, Independence, MO. Registrations sent to Virginia Berberick, PRP, Missouri State Treasurer, at 10908 W 96th Terr, Overland Park, KS 66214. Or contact her via email: virginiaberberick@earthlink.net. No fees for the annual meeting. A \$9.00 lunch is available at 11:45 a.m. by contacting Linda.Seprt@att.net. “Each One-Reach One” is the theme of the meeting

Minnesota State Annual Meeting

May 4, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. - location Hilton Hotel West, 3900 American Blvd W, Bloomington, MN 55437 Early bird registrations of \$45 by April 25 sent to Judy Twisk, 6629 Humboldt Ave So, Richfield, MN 55423 including lunch. Educational session by NAP Past President Jeanette Williams, PRP. Contact person: MSAP VP Miriam Simmons, PRP (mgsimmons52@hotmail.com).

Minnesota Units:

Northern Lights Parliamentarians meet 2nd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m at Perkins, 4201 W. 78th St, Bloomington, MN St. Paul Unit meeting 3rd Monday at 9:30 a.m. Contact Mariam Simmons, PRP, (mgsimmons52@hotmail.com).

Nebraska State Celebration of Leaders Awards Banquet

May 31, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. – location Fellowship Community Church, 86th and Holdrege, Lincoln, NE. Registrations sent to Lynna Gene Cook, 7251 Norris Lane, Lincoln, NE 68516, early bird registration \$30.00 before May 17, 2019. Lodging at Comfort Suites, 331 N. Cotner, Lincoln, NE – 402-325-8800.

Nebraska State Annual Meeting and Workshop

May 31 and June 1, 2019 – location Fellowship Community Church, 86th and Holdrege, Lincoln, NE. Registration sent to Lynna Gene Cook, 7251 Norris Lane, Lincoln, NE 68516, or lgcook08@gmail.com - early bird registration \$95.00 by May 17, 2019. Lodging at Comfort Suites, 331 N. Cotner, Lincoln, NE – 402-325-8800. Registration includes workshops, lunches, snacks and beverages. Theme “Celebrating Change” brought by guest presenter Steve Glandsein, PRP from Honolulu, Hawai’i.

Manitoba Chapter Update

Manitoba Chapter met with their AGM and Spring Education seminar April 6 with 24 in attendance, with the theme of Amending Bylaws. After dividing into four work groups, they were given scenarios of bylaws amendment situations for group participation.

The Keystone Parliamentary Study Group (KPSG) meets monthly, including an evening study group (ESG) and Roger Woloshyn, PRP, is conducting the online Better Meeting Management (BMM) monthly from around the world.

The Manitoba Chapter takes off the summer after May 2019. Contact Marilyn Robinson with questions, marrobins@mymts.net

Lester Dahm’s Memorial Workshop

SAVE THE DATE: November 1-3, 2019 Workshop at Hilton near MCI airport (Kansas City International). More information to follow.

UPCOMING NAP EVENTS

NAP Education Opportunities

May 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. central – WEBINAR on *Testifying as an Expert Witness* presented by Alison Wallis, PRP. Member price \$29, non-member price \$39 via www.parliamentarians.org.

May 23, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. central – WEBINAR on *Preside with PANACHE* presented by Robert (Barry) Blair, PRP. Member price \$29, non-member price \$39 via www.parliamentarians.org.

NAP's 42nd Biennial Convention

September 5-8, 2019 at Westgate Las Vegas Resort and Casino.
Pricing rates for the hotel are \$104.00 plus taxes. Call 888-796-3564 and use code SNAP9R.

Early bird registration for FULL CONFERENCE by July 15 = \$399.00 for members.

Regular registration for FULL CONFERENCE by Aug.19 = \$450.00 for members

ONE DAY CONFERENCE early bird registration by July 15 = \$150.00 for members.

Regular ONE DAY CONFERENCE by Aug.19 = \$175.00 for members.

Events to consider

Golf Outing Wednesday September 4 – 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Las Vegas National Golf Club, 1911 E. Desert Inn Rd, Las Vegas. Pricing green fees including cart per golfer = \$59.00 and club rental begins at \$30.00.

Leadership Conference Wednesday September 4 – 8:00am-4:30pm
– separate registration required.

NAPEF Annual Meeting Wednesday September 4 – 4:15-4:45 pm.

Breakfast and Business Meeting, Thursday September 5 – 7:30am – 11:45am.

NAPEF Lake Mead Dinner Cruise – Thursday September 5 – 4:30pm
– 10:00pm.

Breakfast with Commission and business meeting, Friday September
6 – 7:30 am – 11:45 am.

Professional Development Courses

Sunday September 8 PQC at 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Sunday September 8 PRC at 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Monday September 9 PQC at 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Monday September 9 PRC at 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday September 10 PQC at 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Tuesday September 10 PRC at 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Education Corner

The Letter of the Law?

by Dr. Leonard M. Young, PRP

Past President - National Association of Parliamentarians

Being the president of the National Association of Parliamentarians was a very special and unique responsibility. It was also one that opened the door to many questions and comments from the public concerning misconceptions about parliamentary procedure and parliamentarians. During my term, I had an interesting conversation while traveling on an airplane that made me stop and think about the way we represent ourselves as parliamentary professionals.



I was looking forward to the usual uneventful trip. I boarded the plane, sat down, buckled my seat belt, and settled in. Just then a harried looking man in a business suit came up the aisle and asked me to let him into the row. I got up and when we both got settled, we began to talk. He said he was the executive director of a nation-wide non-profit association. He asked what I did and I told him that I was on my way to a state parliamentary convention. He asked why and I told him, “I

am the president of the National Association of Parliamentarians.” Boy. . . was I unprepared for what he was about to tell me!!

He said, “Oh yes, I know about your association. But I hate to tell you this. I usually refer to your organization as ‘The National Association of Knit-Pickers.” He went on to say, “We have used professional registered parliamentarians at our conventions for years and generally they have been very helpful to our association.” But then he hesitated, and almost apologetically he said, “I think it is only fair to tell you that we are thinking about discontinuing the use of a professional parliamentarian.” When I asked him why, he explained that although they have been technically helpful, often his experience has been that most parliamentarians are too tightly wedded to “the letter of the law.”

I asked him to explain what he meant and he said, “Parliamentarians just don’t know when to quit. They give us the technical advice that we need, but too often they want to push us into unfamiliar language that doesn’t really help our members and more often than not is simply confusing.” I asked for an example and he said, “Our last parliamentarian told us that when someone wants to propose that debate be ended, they should ‘move the previous question.’ Then the parliamentarian told us that the chair should say: ‘The pervious question has been moved and seconded. All those in favor of the previous question, say aye ...’”

“The problem is,” he said, “that with that wording our members are left wondering if they are voting on whether they are ready to close debate or whether they are, in fact, voting on the previously pending question.” I hastened to explain to him the meaning of these words and he acknowledged that he understood. What he didn’t understand was why the parliamentarian insisted on the use of these special “terms of art” and wouldn’t help the presiding officer figure out a simple, plain English, phrase to use as an alternative that would assist the members to understand what was going on. He concluded our chat by saying, “You know, Robert’s Rules is very helpful in business meetings, but remember Robert’s is NOT a grammar book.”

I came away from that conversation with a renewed sense that we, as parliamentarians, are required not only to give the right information, but to give the information the right way. As professionals we cannot settle for just giving people the rules. We have the obligation, and the opportunity, to help them really understand what is taking place in any business meeting and then assist them to find ways to communicate to all of the members what is actually

happening. Sometimes we have to face the fact that the “words of art” we love in parliamentary law really do not communicate very clearly to the average person. I believe this realization calls us to be careful, thorough communicators who help others learn the meaning behind the meaning of the words.

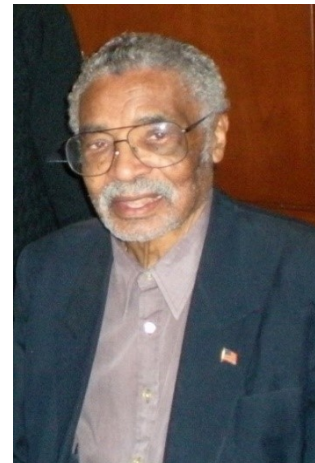
Let’s remember that the letter of the law is not often as important as the spirit of the law that underlies it. As we look with anticipation toward the upcoming release of the new 12th edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised, let’s remember that parliamentary professionals not only have a responsibility to learn and rules and teach them correctly, but we also have a responsibility to communicate their meaning IN PLAIN ENGLISH in a way that will allow members to fully understand and participate in deliberations. Remember, as that association executive said, “Robert’s is NOT a grammar book.”

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Remembering Hansel C. Hall

Hansel C. Hall, the longest active member of the St. Paul Unit of the National Association of Parliamentarians (SPU), died November 12, 2018 in Minneapolis at the age of 91.

Hansel served with distinction as a Registered Parliamentarian and Professional Registered Parliamentarian. He was granted Honorary Member status by the unit in 2016 for his contributions to the profession. Hansel had served in every office of the St. Paul Unit and had served as Parliamentarian and President of the Minnesota State Association of Parliamentarians (two terms as President, 1997-98 and 1998-99). He represented our profession as a good-will ambassador while traveling to Canada, Cuba and Russia as a parliamentarian.



A teacher at heart, Hansel made sure that Unit members appreciated the motions Call for the Order of the Day and Previous Question, as he frequently used them to keep business flowing. His use of Previous Question - even before there was any debate on a motion - prompted a question to the National Parliamentarian, which validated his strategy.

Hansel was instrumental in the formation of a Toastmaster Parliamentary Procedure club in June 1997. The club regularly met at the Fort Snelling Officer's Club directly as a result and benefit of Hansel's military experience. This club has instructed and developed numerous people in the art of parliamentary procedure, many of whom never had the formal benefit of membership to the National Association of Parliamentarians. These people include city council members, state legislators, school board members, attorneys, engineers, civic organization leaders, union stewards, church leaders, and otherwise ordinary Toastmasters.

Hansel served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He went on to receive a Bachelor of Science in Business/Political Science and later earned a law degree. He served as a director and/or officer for the NAACP Minnesota Dakota Branch and the National Association of Korean War Veterans. He was active in and a life member of his fraternity, Omega Psi Phi.

Hansel's humor, advice, and knowledge of parliamentary procedure will be missed by all.

A memorial service was held on December 7, 2018 at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Several members of the Minnesota State Association of Parliamentarians were in attendance. Memories were shared with the many family and friends by Ginny Altman, immediate past president of the SPU and a long-time friend. Hansel is survived by his daughter Grace Hall of Atlanta, GA and his brother, retired Brigadier General David Hall of Saginaw, MI.

Ginny Altman, Michael Orr, Pat Reymann, and Miriam Simmons contributed to this article.

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Remembering Fred Larsen

As the final words are being typed for this publication, we have just learned of the passing of Fred Larsen, a long-time member of the Santa Fe Trail Unit in Independence, Missouri.

At this time, funeral arrangements are not available. If you would like to send a card expressing your condolences, the church suggests sending the cards to the

Fred Larsen family in % The Remnant Church 700 W. Lexington, Independence, MO 64050.

As I write these words, I know I will always remember Fred from one particular lesson on electronic meetings. As the discussion became more spirited, Fred spoke in a calm voice: “Madam chair, I’d like to have everyone in the room turn in RONR to page one, lines 12 thru 14.”

Page one. Simple, calm, and wise. Fred Larsen.

He was kind, he was smart, he was patient, and he was my friend. Those who knew him feel that way as we remember Fred Larsen.

Thanks to Virginia Berberick for passing on this information in time for publication.

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Youth Leadership Success

In the summer 2018, the Missouri State Association of Parliamentarians began work on a youth program with the purpose of developing youth leadership and preparing youth for the industry as professional parliamentarians.



This program began slowly, but high-school aged youth began to gain interest. In coordination with the Boy Scouts of America and BSA’s Heart of America Council, the MSAP chartered Explorer Post 8281. Youth began meeting and studying parliamentary procedure and preparing for the NAP membership exam.

The advantages of this program became clear: any time an organization works with youth, there is a certain amount of liability and training that is involved. The Exploring Program with BSA provides training, oversight, and insurance that the MSAP would otherwise not have.

We figured out we were on to something when Abby Krause, the Exploring Executive from the Pathway to Adventure Council in Chicago contacted us and wanted to learn more. They are now making plans to incorporate the MSAP methodology with the Law and Government Exploring program in Chicago.

We have all said many times that if our organization is going to continue into the future, we must welcome young people into our membership. This is a great way to introduce young people to the art of leadership, the profession of persuasion, and the craft of civil discussion.

Paul D. McDonald
2017-2019 District Five Newsletter Editor

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Call For Papers

The Region V Newsletter is published quarterly and welcomes contributions from its members. Articles, submissions, and items for the calendar may be made to the District V Director: Lddsmartin@att.net – 816-550-4429 or to the editor paul@speakerpaul.com – 913-708-3037.