Hello, NAP District 5 Parliamentarians!

I’m Laura Meade, your recently appointed District Director. The purpose of this newsletter is to connect you with some great people, educational resources, and events.

CONNECT WITH – NAP – National Association of Parliamentarians

NAP -- NTC – If you haven’t heard or seen, the NAP National Training Conference is September 8-11, AND it is now a hybrid event – available both in person and online. This is a great educational opportunity, as there are many workshops to choose from, no matter what your level of interest or expertise. It’s also a great opportunity to network with other parliamentarians. Here are links to the schedule, the workshops, and registration:

- [http://napconference.org/schedule/](http://napconference.org/schedule/)
- [http://napconference.org/workshops/](http://napconference.org/workshops/)
- [http://napconference.org/register/](http://napconference.org/register/)

NAP -- RP CLASSES – Have you attended any of the virtual Registered Parliamentarian (RP) training sessions? They’re informative, they’re online, and they’re FREE. They are an hour or so once or twice a month to dive a little deeper into a specific topic in the new RP credentialing program. You can just listen in on that week’s topic, or you can do the assignments, if you like. There’s no commitment to becoming an RP, although it is geared to helping people get credentialed without feeling intimidated. If you’re already credentialed, these classes are very helpful if you want to mentor someone through the program, or just keep your skills fresh. They are recorded, if you miss one.

Use the link below to get an overview, see Frequently Asked Questions, and look at the expectations for the RP and PRP credentials.
- [https://www.parliamentarians.org/rp-credential/](https://www.parliamentarians.org/rp-credential/)

The actual training session signups and links are sent out by NAP headquarters. Contact [hq@nap2.org](mailto:hq@nap2.org) if you aren’t receiving the emails.
NAP -- CALENDAR – Are your unit and association meetings listed on the NAP calendar? Make an effort to do this. This is how community members and other parliamentarians can find you – especially if you are meeting electronically or hybridly (new word). Go to the NAP website and click on the submission form. Here’s a link: https://www.parliamentarians.org/documents/association-and-unit-event-registration-forms/add-an-event-to-nap-calendar-of-events/

UPCOMING EVENTS


August 17 – RP Training – Minutes. See article for more info.

August 26-27 – NAP Leadership Conference. Online. Register through the NAP Bookstore.

September 8-11 – NAP National Training Conference in Albuquerque, NM and online. See links in article.

September 21 – RP Training – Bylaws Interpretation. See article for more info.

October 5 – RP Training – Bylaws Amendments. See article for more info.

November 5 -- Online meeting and educational workshop hosted by the Manitoba Association.

November 4-6 – Dahms Memorial Foundation workshop, in Bloomington, MN – this year’s theme is focused on subsidiary motions. See www.dahmsfoundation.org for more info.

January 28 – Watch for an educational session from the Minnesota Association directed to non-parliamentarian community members.

CONNECT WITH -- YOUR ASSOCIATION

Coming from an “unchartered” state, I had no idea how much the associations are there to help the units and the members at large with educational programs and opportunities to meet each other and support each other. Here’s how to connect with your association:

Kansas: President -- Susan Draftz, susandraftz@yahoo.com

Manitoba: President -- Deb Stewart, president@parliamentarians-mb.ca
Website: parliamentarians-mb.ca

Minnesota: President -- Miriam Simmons, simmonstothepoint@gmail.com
Website: https://www.friendsofrobert.org/
Facebook: Minnesota State Association of Parliamentarians

Missouri: President -- Karen Meador
Website: MOParli.com
Facebook: Missouri State Association of Parliamentarians

Nebraska: President -- Lori Bucholz
Website: neparliamentarians.weebly.com

Members in “unchartered” areas, the District 5 associations welcome you, too, and we hope to have some district-wide events to support everyone.

CONNECT WITH -- NAP UNITS

If you don’t belong to a unit, or you want to belong to more than one, now is a good time to explore! The pandemic forced a lot of units to have electronic access to their meetings. You may find that a unit in your state or province – or any state or province – now has an electronic meeting or a hybrid meeting (meeting in person, but also having electronic access). There are also units that are all
electronic all the time. This is great for those of you who are not near a geographical unit. You can find units by going to the NAP calendar (see above) and clicking on a day and time that works for you. Or go to your association’s website or Facebook page. Units: invite members at large to your virtual meetings!

CONNECT WITH -- YOUR COMMUNITY
Work with your association and your units to make parliamentary procedure accessible and relevant to your community members. Check to see how other units and associations are connecting and get some great ideas. Does your unit or association have a social media presence? Make it easy for people to find you.

CONNECT WITH -- RONR
Finally, if you want parliamentary procedure education on demand by reading specific real-life situations, check out the forum on the official Roberts Rules website. You can spend a few minutes, a few hours, --or days or months, and get educated by some of the best parliamentarians in the world (our district’s Josh Martin is one of the highly regarded contributors). The RONR authors also chime in regularly. Here’s a link: https://robertsrules.forumflash.com/

I hope to see you all at the NTC in Albuquerque or at an event in District 5. If you have questions, or want more information about any of these items, please send me an email at meadelaura78@gmail.com

All my best,
Laura Meade,
PRP, CP

District 5 includes the Associations from Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Minnesota, and Manitoba. It also includes “unchartered” areas of Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nunavut, and Saskatchewan. It’s pretty much a strip up the middle of the US and Canada.