

# Florida State Association of PARLIAMENTARIANS



## Report of the FSAP Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following candidates who have agreed to serve as officers for the 2025-2027 term of service. Please read their full bios here.



### **For President: Barbara Proctor, PRP**

I was introduced to parliamentary procedure in Miami when Dr. Herberta Anne Leonardy spoke during a dinner meeting of my professional association. It was love at first sight. I became an NAP member in 1978 and became a Registered Parliamentarian in 1980. Since 2021, I have devoted my full time to serving as a PRP. My focus is on promoting the use of parliamentary procedure throughout the state of Florida, to make everyone's lives better.



### **For First Vice President: Sarah Russell, RP**

I joined NAP in August 2013 when I was introduced to parliamentary procedure by a member of my National Guard unit who was the President of the Miami Parliamentary Law Unit at that time. I became a Registered Parliamentarian in September 2020.



### **For Second Vice President: Mary Smith, RP**

As a longstanding member of the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP), the Florida State Association of Parliamentarians (FSAP), and the Broward-Palm Beach Parliamentarian Unit (BPBP), I witnessed firsthand the power of collaboration and shared purpose within our organization through attending meetings, workshops and conferences.



### **For Secretary: Annjeanette Mitchell**

I am currently pursuing a master's degree in public administration and my ultimate goal is to become a professional parliamentarian as my passion for parliamentary procedure has led me to explore the more unconventional paths to leadership and professional fulfillment.



### **For Treasurer: Ted Allman, PRP**

I was first introduced to parliamentary procedure as a Toastmaster in 1974. However, It wasn't until 2017 that I discovered NAP. Over the next two years, I earned my RP and PRP. Since then, I've established the Central Florida Parliamentarians Unit, prepared seventeen members for their RP exam, and launched my private practice, Parliamentarians LLC.



## **Barbara Proctor**

I was introduced to parliamentary procedure in Miami when Dr. Herberta Anne Leonardy spoke during a dinner meeting of my professional association. It was love at first sight.

With the help and guidance of Lydia B. Croft, RP, I became an NAP member in 1978 and became a Registered Parliamentarian in 1980. This seems like yesterday!

I can easily remember one of my first clients, a local civic association that was extremely pleased about dramatically increasing its membership only to discover they were now outvoted. Someone resigned creating a vacancy and their bylaws did not include any provisions for including a vacancy. I heard Robert whispering in my ear, the power to appoint includes the power to fill a vacancy.

Another early client asked me to attend a meeting of the American Cancer Society in Florida because the meeting included a very controversial motion concerning a ban on smoking inside buildings. The opposition did not attend and my services were not needed.

All parliamentarians have great stories to share where they've assisted others navigate difficult situations. Having the ability and the opportunity to help others is the reward.

My knowledge and experience in understanding an applying parliamentary procedure increased as I worked for attorneys (where I learned to appreciate the importance of being able to interpret rules and following procedure) and as a property manager for industrial and retail centers governed by condominium associations. In 2018 when I relocated to Ocala, Florida, I served as property manager for a dozen residential communities, during COVID, which means I attend more than 100 hybrid or virtual meetings.

Since 2021, I have devoted my full time to serving as a PRP. During the previous 40 years, my co-workers only knew that I was always traveling to far away cities, not realizing this vacation time was being used to serve as a convention parliamentarian.

### **LEADERSHIP?**

In Cincinnati, I was elected to student council during my senior year in high school – being extremely shy, I never said one word at any meeting although I attended every meeting.

Parliamentary procedure helped me overcome this problem. In Miami, co-workers encouraged me to join our professional association. All of the leaders were a board member as well and were required to take a class in parliamentary procedure. They insisted I climb the leadership ladder. As corresponding secretary I read correspondence during meetings, as secretary I read the minutes, and with each step I became more comfortable speaking in front of others because I had something to say. Even as president, I had a script of what to say and when. During my tenure as membership



## **Barbara Proctor**

chairman, our membership increased by 30% and as president, a motion was adopted to alternate monthly meeting nights between Tuesday and Wednesday to allow members attending college to participate, and locations of meetings changed to different locations to allow members who did not work downtown to attend.

During this time, I was a member of the R.E.A.L. Parliamentary Unit until I moved to Fort Lauderdale where I was a charter member of the Plantation Unit of Parliamentarians now known as the Broward – Palm Beach Parliamentarians. At the unit level I served in every capacity from the supportive member to being President.

What about FSAP? A dozen or so years ago, I served as FSAP Treasurer, and more recently as FSAP First Vice President and as FSAP Education Chairman. What about in between? I was busy raising my family and working a full time job while serving as a professional registered parliamentarian. Now my focus is on promoting the use of parliamentary procedure throughout the state of Florida, to make everyone's lives better. It is more important than ever to get involved in your organizations, to learn how to effectively communicate, and to make the most informed decisions. How do we do this?

Well, that is the first question to ask FSAP leadership. Where do we stand? What are our challenges? What are our resources? What do FSAP members want to accomplish, individually, and as the Florida State Association of Parliamentarians? In the interim, my plan is to continue to teach, to lead, to learn, and to discover how to promote RONR for everyone to benefit, just as I do, as a Professional Registered Parliamentarian.

## Sarah Russell, RP



I joined NAP in August 2013 when I was introduced to parliamentary procedure by a member of my National Guard unit who was the President of the Miami Parliamentary Law Unit at that time.

I served two terms as Recording Secretary and one term as Corresponding Secretary for the Florida State Association of Parliamentarians (FSAP). I have served two terms as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the FSAP and two terms as President of The Miami Parliamentary Law Unit.

I was a member of the FSAP Bylaws Revision

Committee in 2023.

I became a Registered Parliamentarian in September 2020. I have served as one of the judges in the Florida Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Parliamentary Procedure Judging competition for high school students on several occasions.

I retired as a Major from the Florida Army National Guard in 1996, after 21 years of military service.

Mary Smith, RP



My name is Mary Smith, RP. It is with great excitement and commitment that I announce my candidacy for Second Vice-President. As a longstanding member of the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP), the Florida State Association of Parliamentarians (FSAP), and the Broward-Palm Beach Parliamentarian Unit (BPBP), I witnessed firsthand the power of collaboration and shared purpose within our organization through attending meetings, workshops and conferences.

### **About My Leadership Experience**

- Currently serving as President of the BPBP Unit of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.
- Former Membership Chairperson for the Florida A&M University (FAMU) Broward Alumni Chapter for three years, before advancing to Vice President.
- Active Member of the Membership Committee for the FAMU National Alumni Association, after serving as the Third Vice President raising over \$1,000,000 for Scholarships to be used by students in need of financial assistance to complete their studies.

These experiences have deepened my belief that **“there is strength in numbers.”** Together, we can build an even stronger FSAP by engaging every member, fostering collaboration, and amplifying our collective impact.

### **My Vision for Membership Growth and Engagement**

#### **1. Increasing Membership for Greater Heights of Service**

- I am committed to innovative strategies and best practices to expand our membership and strengthen the FSAP community.

#### **2. Engaging Every Member**

- Each member has a voice and a role to play in shaping our organization. My goal is to ensure everyone feels valued, engaged, and empowered.

#### **3. Learning from One Another**

- By sharing knowledge and best practices across units, we will grow stronger together and unlock new opportunities for success.

### **Why Your Vote Matters**

I would be honored to speak with every unit of the FSAP to strategize how we will increase our membership, elevate our services, and ensure a thriving future. Let’s work together to

Mary Smith, RP

make the FSAP a dynamic and inclusive organization that reflects the passion and dedication of its members. Let's Grow Together! I look forward to serving you.

## **Annjeanette Mitchell**



Annjeanette Mitchell is an extremely active student leader involved on both the local and state level. During her undergraduate studies at Eastern Florida State College, she served as President of the College-wide Student Council, Vice President of Sigma Beta Delta Business Honor Society, Chair of the Palm Bay Campus Activity Board, and the President of the Florida College System Student Government Association.

Annjeanette has been a leader in every organization she has been a part of since the start of her time in college including the American Business Women's Association where she currently serves as chair of her chapter's Best Practices committee. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in public administration and her ultimate goal is to become a professional parliamentarian as her passion for parliamentary procedure has led her to explore the more unconventional paths to leadership and professional fulfillment.

## Ted Allman, PRP



I was first introduced to parliamentary procedure as a Toastmaster in 1974. Throughout my Toastmasters years, I led many parliamentary workshops. However, It wasn't until 2017 that I discovered NAP. Over the next two years, I earned my RP and PRP. Since then, I've established the Central Florida Parliamentarians Unit, prepared seventeen members for their RP exam, and launched my private practice, Parliamentarians LLC.

"In college, I completed a two-year minor in accounting. At graduate school, many of the business courses focused on accounting principles where I earned my Ph. D, in Computer Information Systems. As a programmer-analyst, I've installed and modified many general ledger systems.

"At the last FSAP Annual Meeting, I was appointed Treasurer to fill a vacancy. Now that I have settled into the position after an arduous learning curve, I am prepared to serve another term if you will have me."