

Florida State Association of PARLIAMENTARIANS



Timeless Inspiration

by Ann Guiberson, PRP

Your editor was browsing through some old editions of the *National Parliamentarian* and came across the First Quarter 1990 magazine. The message at the front of the magazine was written by Carl Ann “Jimmy” Stickeler, FSAP Past President (1981-1983) and past NAP President (1989-1991).

She was NAP President the year I joined NAP and she was the face and the personal touch for me that made the association so special. When she presided over the NAP convention in Tampa in 1991, she appointed me, a brand new member, to serve on a convention committee. She had a way of drawing people in and making them all feel included. Shortly after I joined NAP, she began encouraging me to start studying to earn the registered parliamentarian designation. During the next decades, most of the credentialed members in Florida were influenced in one way or another to earn their parliamentary credentials by Jimmy.

Since Jimmy was my mentor and inspiration in parliamentary procedure, I wanted to share her inspiring words with you as you take a look at all the wonderful opportunities in this month’s newsletter to learn, practice, and share parliamentary procedure this coming year.

By Jimmy Stickeler, PRP



As we begin this new year, our fervent hope is to motivate you and inspire you to participate in the activities of NAP—at the national, state, and local levels—to the utmost of your abilities. To do this, we have borrowed from an article written by Bobby Cremins, basketball coach at Georgia Tech. Coach Cremins' philosophy of motivation is based on love and discipline and shares how you can reach your full potential through teamwork and participation.

Team Concept. Team is first, you are second. Bob Woodruff, a founder of Coca Cola said, “There is no limit to what a person can achieve, as long as that person is willing to give credit to other people. No individual on his own can reach his full potential.”

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We

exhort you to support your team—the local units, the state associations, and the national organization. "Getting together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success."

Together we can achieve this success. The theme for this administration is "Learning Never Ends." As parliamentarians, this is a given. We can never complete our learning, and we each must pledge ourselves to the continued study and practice of correct procedure.

Discipline. We encourage you to "(a) set short and long range goals, (b) set a list of priorities, and (c) work hard to reach these goals and live according to your priorities."

Dedication. "Dedication is simply hard work." We must be dedicated to our objective and our desire to become better parliamentarians, and to keep our association the premier organization of parliamentarians.

Enthusiasm. "To be successful doing something, you must feel good about doing it." This base of enthusiasm in each member is the determining factor in making our team a success.

Determination. We must be determined to do all things possible for the success of NAP, FSAP, and our local unit. "Success is failure turned inside out." We are determined to keep the lines of communication open, and that responsibility lies with each of us. We won't know what you want or need unless you communicate with us.

Confidence. We must have the confidence that what we are doing and what we wish to accomplish are right for the members of our team (NAP, FSAP, Units, and MALs). "We must have the confidence that we can achieve and be whatever we wish."

Many exciting things are going to happen in our organization in the coming years, and we want you to be part of this excitement and achievement in the new decade!

Jimmy was a wise and wonderful person and leader. She lived by these words, and I hope you will too.