

Florida Parliamentarian

JUNE 2026

Florida State Association of
PARLIAMENTARIANS

Let All Things Be Done Decently and in Order



CHARTING THE COURSE

Welcome aboard the FSAP Cruise Ship as we sail around the great state of Florida!

May 16th – FSAP Virtual SPRING CONFERENCE *was well attended and exceeded expectations!*

Membership meetings, whether at the state or unit level, are much more than gatherings to receive reports and make decisions. They are opportunities to see parliamentary procedure in action, participate in its use, and gain confidence in applying it.



The recent FSAP membership meeting provided an excellent example. Following opening ceremonies and an inspiration, members adopted the registration report, standing rules, and agenda. By unanimous consent, the chair appointed a timekeeper, a minutes approval committee, and technology assistants. Reports were then presented by officers and committee chairmen.

Members observed a variety of parliamentary procedures, including the adoption of an audit report, the adoption of a bylaw amendment after a motion to amend by substitution was adopted, a Point of Order, and a Request for Information. Members were also reminded to address all remarks and questions to and through the chair, reinforcing a fundamental principle of orderly deliberation. The assembly also adopted a motion authorizing the minutes approved by the minutes approval committee to be shared with members. As a result, those minutes are now available in the Members Only section of the FSAP website.

At my recent unit meeting, we adopted one amendment, defeated another, adopted a motion to reconsider, granted permission to modify the wording of a motion during debate, and raised a Point of Order. Each action provided practical experience and demonstrated how parliamentary procedure helps groups make decisions fairly and efficiently.

The best way to learn parliamentary procedure is to experience it. Every motion, vote, and ruling becomes a learning opportunity. Many FSAP units now offer virtual meetings, making participation easier than ever. Information about upcoming meetings can be found on the FSAP website. Take advantage of these opportunities to attend, participate, and discover firsthand how parliamentary procedure supports effective leadership, collaboration, and decision making.

Now, the focus is on celebrating the 250th Anniversary
of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.



Where does your American Story Begin?

In some virtual meeting, I was asked what my favorite motion is. I think they were asking about subsidiary, privileged, and/or incidental motions. However, in my opinion, the greatest motion/resolution occurred 250 years ago last Sunday, 7 June, and it was moved by Richard Henry Lee—known as Lee’s Resolution.



Randal Allan, PhD

aerospace321@outlook.com

Patriot Records Committee, National Society SAR
Recording Secretary, Florida Society SAR
Patriotic Activities Chair, Florida Society SAR
Recording Secretary, Central Florida Chapter SAR
Parliamentarian, Central Florida Chapter SAR
Past President, Central Florida Chapter SAR
NAP Member – Central Florida Parliamentary Unit

Resolved, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved. That it is expedient forthwith to take the most effectual measures for forming foreign Alliances. That a plan of confederation be prepared and transmitted to the respective Colonies for their consideration and approbation.

After much debate (the rest of June), it was put to vote and adopted on 2 July, and the United Colonies / States was born. (The “press release” was two days later of course.)





Report on NAP Virtual Spring Conference
March 28, 2026
**Track C: Enduring Principles - Evolving Practices;
Building Your Parliamentary Voice**
Edward Nelson, PRP

**“Enduring Principles - Foundations in Historical Documents
and their Relation to Common Law and Modern Practices”**

Presented by Boyd Ready, RP

The speaker provided commentary on the rights derived from a historical analysis of content in the following parliamentary related documents with anniversary years occurring in 2026:

- 801st - *Magna Carta* (definitive version), 1225.
- 445th - Sir Thomas Smythe’s *De Republica Anglorum: The Manner of Gouvernement or Policie of the Realme of England of 1581* (rules adopted), 1583 (published).
- 257th - *Blackstone, Commentary on the Laws of England*, 1765-1769.
- 250th - Thomas Jefferson’s *Declaration of Independence*, 1776.
- 225th - Thomas Jefferson’s *Manual of Parliamentary Practice*, 1801.
- 150th - Henry Robert, *Pocket Manual of Rules of Order for Deliberative Assemblies*, 1876.

Arguing the case that all parliamentary procedure is a form of common law, the speaker proffered his reasoning on the following points:

- Not all laws are explicit.
- The assembly is the final judge.
- Like the Bill of Rights - there are other rights.
- Thomas Jefferson’s founding manual uses custom and precedent.
- Privilege of the assembly is deliberately left undefined.





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3rd Tuesdays @ 7 p.m. ET
Facilitated by Amy Brown, RP



Tuesday, June 16th

**MAKE YOUR EVENTS STAND OUT!
Create Professional Notices,
Flyers & Ads with Ease**

Discover simple ways to design polished promotional materials that add credibility and visibility to your unit meetings and educational events.

Learn More • Promote Better • Look Professional

5th

Florida State Association of
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Tuesday @ 7 p.m.

June 30th



Explore the assembly's mutiny capabilities as it relates to Point of Order and Appeal.

Daniel A. Ivey-Soto, PRP, CP-T



NAPEF

2026 FUNDRAISER

Saturday, August 29, 2026

The NAP Educational Foundation (NAPEF) is a charitable organization that raises funds to support NAP's efforts to develop, promote, and provide educational content and programs that will enhance the parliamentary profession. NAPEF also provides scholarships to students and young professionals that fund annual membership dues and other fees.

The theme for the gala dinner is **A Day in the Life of Henry M. Robert III**. Tickets are \$140/person.

Join the NAP Educational Foundation for an evening of fun and fellowship while supporting the Foundation.



Sign up for the NAPEF Fundraiser when you register for the Conference.

See you there!



Connect. Learn. Lead.

Join parliamentarians and leaders from across the country for a weekend of education, networking, and inspiration—all under one spectacular roof.

Conference sessions begin promptly at 8:00 a.m. Friday, so plan to arrive Thursday, get settled, and start refreshed.



Bring your spouse. Extend your stay. Make it a weekend.

Stay through Saturday night to fully enjoy the weekend atmosphere and join us for a special Sunday morning closing event you will not want to miss. Wrap up your conference experience on Sunday morning with a special farewell breakfast, featuring

an inspiring keynote speaker. It's the perfect way to connect, reflect, and celebrate the weekend together—plan to stay through the final event!




NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS®

2026 NAP Training Conference

August 26-30, 2026 • Birmingham, AL




Florida State Association of
PARLIAMENTARIANS






Unlock the Secrets

to Becoming a
NAP
Member




Mondays at 7 p.m. ET
Facilitated by Carol Prahinski, PRP

		
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Unlock the Secrets

to Becoming a
NAP
Credentialed Member



Wednesdays at 7 p.m. ET
Facilitated by Stephanie "Sam" King, PRP

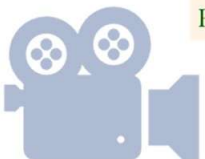
		
STAND OUT In Your Profession	ACCESS Exclusive Resources	CONNECT with a Network of Industry Leaders

Discover the knowledge, resources, and Opportunities that open the door to Professional excellence.

**UNLOCK YOUR POTENTIAL
BECOME NAP CREDENTIALLED**

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Wednesdays
at 2 p.m. for 1-hour

ON DEMAND TRAINING:
Videos from NAPU
FOR AN IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF RONR

with
Sarah Russell, RP

- Target Audience**
- You recognize that setting aside a consistent weekly time is the only reliable way to review NAPU videos and prepare for the credentialing exams.
 - You want to assess your understanding one question at a time.




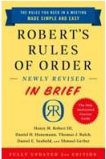
Click [HERE](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84458242121) to Register:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84458242121>

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QUESTIONS ANSWERED:
Basic Review
PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

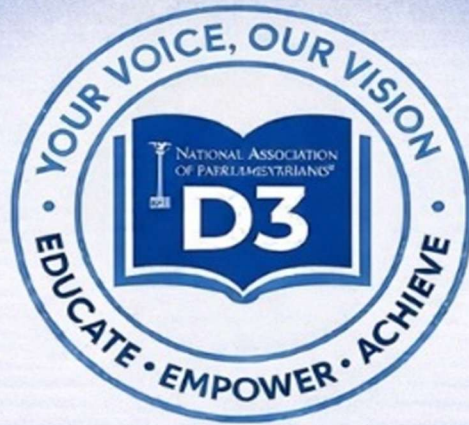
FRIDAYS
at 2 p.m. for 1-hour
with
Sarah Russell, RP

- Target Audience**
- You have questions and a desire to learn basic terminology and procedures
 - You want to understand how these procedures benefit members in an organization
 - You prefer a friendly and conversational learning environment




Click [HERE](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84458242121) to Register:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84458242121>



SAVE THE DATE

2026 District Three
Innovation in Motion:
Parliamentary Spotlight Forum

 **Saturday, June 20, 2026**



Join **District Three** for a dynamic and engaging virtual forum highlighting **innovation, best practices,** and thought leadership in **parliamentary procedure.** This event will feature insightful presentations and spotlight discussions designed to inform, inspire, and elevate **parliamentary excellence.**

Contact **Steven Cook, PRP, District Three Director**
email: d3d.cook@nap2.org

The Discipline of Self Control



Scripture:

“He that is slow to anger is better than the might;
and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city

— Proverbs 16:32 (KJV)

Reflection:

A calm spirit is one of the strongest forms of leadership. In meetings where emotions may rise, the member who remains composed helps preserve unity and thoughtful deliberation.

Parliamentary Principle:

Members and chairs alike must maintain decorum, avoiding personal attacks and emotions during debate.

Call to Action:

Choose peace over impulse, and let your conduct strengthen the tone of every meeting .



“Better than
a thousand
hollow words
is one word
that brings
peace.”



Advisory Board

- Separate seating for board members
- Public seating is outside the circle of board members
- Follow formal or information procedures based on size
- Make recommendations
- Resolutions

Tech Tip: Be brave! Take deep breath and do it: **Windows Key + ;**

Discussing Personal Matters Scenario

Scenario:	Problem:	Tip:
A member starts a side conversation about a personal issue unrelated to the meeting's agenda, distracting others.	Personal discussions derail the meeting and waste time.	The chair should ensure that all discussions remain relevant to the agenda and redirect members if they start veering off-topic.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Education & Training

- Members learn what to expect and how to participate
- Reach new leadership potential
- Earn credentials as an RP or PRP

Resources

- Access FREE guides & publications
- NAP University & NAP Bookstore
- Virtual Training Sessions

Advocacy

- Promote leadership skills
- Learn best practices for your organization

Networking

- Connect with other leaders and professionals
- Answers to your questions



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION – If you have questions regarding your membership, contact FSAP Second Vice President, Mary Smith, RP (maryhsmith@yahoo.com).

INTERESTED IN FSAP EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES? If your organization or unit, or someone you know is interested in learning more about parliamentary procedure, be it general training or preparing to take the NAP exam to become a member, the RPCE, or the PRPCE, contact FSAP Education Chairman, Carol Prahinski, PRP (prahinski@gmail.com).