

The Florida Parliamentarian

FEBRUARY 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!

Next stop: **ORLANDO**

For decades, the Florida State Association of Parliamentarians has proudly supported youth leadership development by providing trained judges for middle school and high school parliamentary procedure competitions held throughout Orlando. As one of the most popular destinations for both state and national contests, Orlando has long been a gathering place for outstanding student leaders eager to demonstrate their skills in orderly debate, motions, and meeting management.



FSAP's tradition of service at these competitions reflects our commitment not only to parliamentary excellence, but also to investing in the next generation of leaders. By supplying experienced parliamentarians as judges, we help ensure that contests are conducted fairly, consistently, and in keeping with the principles found in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

Serving as a judge is more than a volunteer opportunity. It is a professional development experience. To support our judges, FSAP Youth Chairman Julie Palm, PRP, provides the NAP Chart of Motions as a ready reference during competitions. Having this trusted tool at hand promotes consistency and confidence while evaluating fast paced demonstrations.

Beyond the technical benefits, there is something uniquely energizing about working with middle school and high school students. Their enthusiasm is contagious. Their preparation is impressive. Their eagerness to learn and perform reminds us why parliamentary procedure matters. You will see teamwork, leadership, and respectful debate in action. You may even recognize future NAP members and future RPs and PRPs in the making.

On a personal level, judging offers fulfillment that goes beyond the score sheet. You contribute to building confidence in young leaders. You encourage accuracy and fairness. You help shape their understanding of democratic process and orderly decision making. And yes, you will likely leave smiling, encouraged by their energy and commitment.

If you have never judged a youth competition in Orlando, consider joining this long standing FSAP tradition. You will give back to the profession, strengthen your own expertise, and experience the joy of supporting the next generation of parliamentary leaders.



INTRODUCING Amy Brown, RP FSAP TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Amy is a recently credentialed Registered Parliamentarian and an FSAP Affiliate member from Simpsonville, South Carolina. Her husband and two daughters keep her personal life busy, plus, Amy actively volunteers for Girl Scouts. In addition to serving as a Service Unit Manager and an organizer of outdoor experiences, she also acts as the Governance Advisor for her

local council and runs parliamentary procedure trainings for a number of councils throughout the country. She is also a co-founder and administrator for Friends of Camp WaBak, a community devoted to supporting the camp experience for girls in the SC-Mountains to Midlands council.

Leaning on her IT background, Amy likes to dabble with various technologies including building and running a website aimed at educating volunteers and staff about local and national governance in Girl Scouts. In her various volunteer roles, Amy uses a variety of technologies to communicate and inform those she serves.

Amy is a firm believer that implementation of the democratic process strengthens, unifies, and focuses organizations and nonprofits. Effective use of parliamentary procedure is the vehicle for that goal, and a well-versed board, presiding officer, and assembly can efficiently process and power through even the toughest topics. She looks forward to working with FSAP members for the monthly technology sessions on the 3rd Tuesday at 7pm and invites everyone to share their expertise to make it a collaborative experience.

The Technology Committee will be hosting FSAP Tech Tip – monthly virtual technology training for parliamentarians the 3rd Tuesday starting February 17, 2026, at 7 p.m. ET

The first **FSAP Tech Tip** focus is on Zoom meetings, equipping parliamentarians and leaders to set up, manage, and effectively use Zoom features that support orderly meetings, fairness, and member rights with an emphasis on using technology as a tool, not a substitute for parliamentary procedure.

A promotional graphic for an FSAP Tech Tip session. It features a circular logo with 'FSAP Tech Tips' in the center. To the right, it says '3rd Tuesdays at 7 p.m. (ET) with Amy Brown, RP'. Below that is the Zoom logo and 'Electronic Meetings February 17, 2026'. At the bottom, it says 'Click HERE to Register'. On the right side, there is a list of topics: Account Settings, Scheduling Meetings, Zoom Features, Participation Tools, Voting Procedures, Screen Sharing, Recording, Accessibility, Troubleshooting, and Contingency Planning. The top right corner has the Florida State Association of Parliamentarians logo and the motto 'Let All Things Be Done Decently and in Order'.

To request future topics, email Amy at: amy@dawgtoons.com

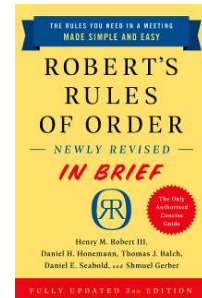
My Parliamentary Journey

Kalilah Taite
1-08-26

I am Kalilah Taite, a Tallahassee native, in my third year of study at Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University (FAMU), striving to obtain a bachelor's degree in Vocal Performance. As the eldest daughter and a natural-born leader, I have always preferred order and structure, while also favoring fairness and being just. Growing up, I often took the lead in projects, productions, and even in partnerships. As much as I longed for a system of order with a sense of efficiency, I always seemed to fall short whenever I attempted to create them myself. During the summer of 2025, my grandmother offered my sisters and me the opportunity to attend the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP) "We Want You!" workshop, and my curiosity accepted her offer. She gifted us each our own copy of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised In Brief (RONRIB), 3rd edition, complete with her own handwritten note.



I was introduced to parliamentary procedure earlier, but little did I know how much was truly involved beyond "aye" and "no." As I began to study before attending the first workshop session, I immediately fell in love with RONRIB. The moment I saw the approximated reading times with chapter suggestions, I knew this would be the book for me. Through RONRIB and the "We Want You" program, I learned things I previously would have never thought to take into consideration. Recently, I was tasked with administering the elections for my on-campus organization, the FAMU Concert Choir, which I now currently serve as the Vice-President. Without the tools and experience that comes with being a member of NAP, I know I would not have been able to conduct that election with the same manner of organization, confidentiality, and fairness as I was able to achieve with my newly acquired knowledge.



As a fellow student, I implore any young person with even a shred of curiosity to take that leap and strive to become an NAP member. Regardless of if you are a leader of an organization or club or if you view yourself as "merely a member," being of a parliamentary mindset is an irreplaceable asset that can be applied anywhere. Extracurriculars, occupations, and relationships can all benefit from the boundless possibilities of a parliamentary mindset. Allowing yourself to take advantage of these opportunities now will undoubtedly provide you with an advantage in all of your endeavors. Thank you, NAP for providing me with the opportunity to share my parliamentary journey, and I thank all of you for riding along, for I hope others follow behind me.

Submit your story and join us in celebrating March as Parliamentary Youth Month



WANTED: Parliamentary judges

for the following youth groups parliamentary Competitions in March and April

- **FBLA** needs 3 judges on **Friday March 13, 2026** at the Hilton Orlando, 5001 Destination Parkway. [12:00 – 5:00 p.m.]
- **TSA** needs 6 judges on **Friday, March 27, 2026** at the Doubletree Universal [7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.]
- **FCCLA** needs 3 judges on **Friday, March 27, 2026** at the Doubletree Seaworld [7:30 a.m. orientation]
- **HOSA** needs 3 judges on **Friday, April 17, 2026** at the Marriott World Orlando Center [11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.]

If you can help out please let me know. If you have judged in the past the youth group may have already contacted you to sign up, if so and you have signed up please let me know. If you know of someone else that might be willing to judge please share this information.

Thank you,

Julie Palm, PRP
FSAP Youth Committee Chair
hpalm@bellsouth.net
305-947-2099 (cell)
305-945-8922 (landline)





SCHEDULE

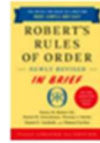
Track A: Preparing for the NAP Membership Exam — Building a Strong Foundation

Track A is the entry point to understanding and mastering key terms and procedures to confidently prepare for the NAP membership exam. If attendees take and pass the NAP membership exam after the Conference and before April 30, 2026, NAP will pay their first-year dues of \$99 from the registration fee. Attendees are encouraged to purchase the spiral-bound copy of *Robert's Rules of Order In Brief* (from the NAP Bookstore).

“We Want You” Parliamentary Training



TIME (CT)	SESSION AND TOPIC	SPEAKERS
10:00 – 11:00	1 Chapters 1-3	Jacquita L. Wright-Henderson, PRP
11:00 – 12:00	2 Chapters 4-5	Twylah L. Jenkins, PRP
12:15 – 1:30	3 Chapters 6-7	Kelly L. Lucas, PRP
2:00 – 3:00	4 Chapters 8-9	
3:00 – 4:00	5 Chapters 10-11	
4:00 - 4:30	Summary and Wrap-up - Group Review and Discussion	



Track B: NAP Officer’s Roundtable — Skills for Every Office; Building Leadership Roles from Routine to Remarkable

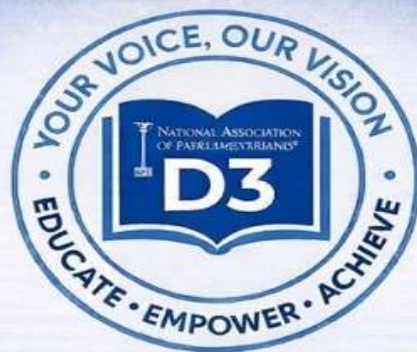
Track B combines historical wisdom with current best practices, guided by past and present NAP officers, who will share their experience, insights, and practical strategies for individual officer roles. Attendees are encouraged to purchase the Focus Materials — President, Secretary, Treasurer, Board of Directors, and Committees (from the NAP Bookstore). Each session is approved for one CEU.

TIME (CT)	SESSION	TOPIC AND SPEAKER
10:00 – 11:05	1	NAP President’s Panel: Mona Y. Calhoun, PRP – Alison Wallis, PRP – Wanda M. Sims, PRP – Ann Guiberson, PRP
11:15 – 12:20	2	NAP Secretary: Donna M. Mitchell, PRP
12:30 – 1:35	3	NAP Treasurer: Mark D. Apodaca, PRP
2:00 – 3:05	4	Parliamentarian – Elections and Nominations: C.J. Cavin, PRP, NAP Vice President
3:15 – 4:20	5	Boards and Committees: Corliss Baker, RP
4:20 – 4:30	Closing	

Track C: Enduring Principles — Evolving Practices; Building Your Parliamentary Voice


Track C is designed for parliamentarians seeking to sharpen their skills and confidently manage advanced, real-world situations. Attendees are encouraged to purchase the updated *Professional Practice in Parliamentary Procedure* (from the NAP Book Store). Each session is approved for one CEU.

TIME (CT)	SESSION	TOPIC AND SPEAKER
10:00 – 11:05	1	Where Robert’s Stops and the Law Begins Presented by Carole R. Albright, PRP
11:15 – 12:20	2	Enduring Principles Presented by Boyd Ready, RP
12:30 – 1:35	3	Filling Blanks: From Inception to the 12th Edition Presented by Carol Prahinski, PRP
2:00 – 3:05	4	Terminology in RONR: Changes Since the Nineteenth Century Presented by David C. Mezzera, PRP
3:15 – 4:20	5	Point of Order: The Rules Then and Now Presented by Joyce A. Brown-Watkins, PRP
4:20 – 4:30	Closing	



SAVE THE DATE

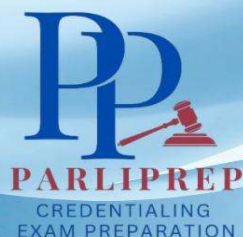
2026 District Three **Innovation in Motion:** *Parliamentary Spotlight Forum*

 **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



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS®

PARLIPREP 2026

*A Comprehensive Study of Parliamentary Procedure
for Credentialing Exam Preparation*

JAN 11, 2026 - APRIL 26, 2026

Sun or Wed 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Central

FIRST STEPS:
FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

Mondays
March 9, 16, 23, and 30
from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. (ET)
presented by
Dr. Carol Prahinski, PRP

Homework: Before the 1st session, read pages 1-51
Click [HERE](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81054dAnQ0w3PdIHIE7qA) to Register: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81054dAnQ0w3PdIHIE7qA>

Florida State Association of **PARLIAMENTARIANS**
Let All Things Be Done Decently and in Order

Target Audience

- You want to learn more about parliamentary procedure and Robert's Rules of Order.
- You want to have great meetings.
- You want to become a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians.

NEXT STEPS:
APPLICATION SKILLS
OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE
From Confusion to Credibility

Wednesdays
at 7 p.m. (ET) for 1-hour
presented by
Stephanie "Sam" King, PRP

Click [HERE](#) to Register

Florida State Association of **PARLIAMENTARIANS**
Let All Things Be Done Decently and in Order

Target Audience

- You are seeking opportunities to ask questions to understand specific procedures and to practice using your skills
- You have questions about items listed in the NAP Criteria for Credentialing or following NAP's ParliPrep sessions

QUESTIONS ANSWERED:
Basic Review
PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

STUDY GUIDE
The first step to learning how to master meetings

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

Click [HERE](#) to Register

Florida State Association of **PARLIAMENTARIANS**
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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

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

with
Sarah Russell, RP

Wednesdays
at 2 p.m. for 1-hour

Click [HERE](#) to Register

Florida State Association of **PARLIAMENTARIANS**
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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.

FSAP Tech Tips

3rd Tuesdays
at 7 p.m. (ET) with
Amy Brown, RP

zoom
Electronic Meetings
February 17, 2026

Click [HERE](#) to Register

Florida State Association of **PARLIAMENTARIANS**
Let All Things Be Done Decently and in Order

Target Audience

- Account Settings
- Scheduling Meetings
- Zoom Features
- Participation Tools
- Voting Procedures
- Screen Sharing
- Recording
- Accessibility
- Troubleshooting
- Contingency Planning

FIRST STEPS:
FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

Mondays
February 2, 9, 16, and 23
at 7 p.m. (ET) for 1-hour
presented by
Barbara Proctor, PRP

Click [HERE](#) to Register

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Let All Things Be Done Decently and in Order

Target Audience

- You want to learn more about parliamentary procedure and Robert's Rules of Order.
- You want to have great meetings.
- You want to become a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians.

Florida State Association of **PARLIAMENTARIANS**
Let All Things Be Done Decently and in Order

Fifth Tuesday Speaker Series

Dr. Carol Prahinski, PRP
presents
Oops! The Minutes

The Role of the Secretary and Writing Effective Minutes

To register:
March 31, 2026, at 7 pm Eastern




Don't be an only child.
 Come our unit meeting to meet your
 extended parliamentary family!
 We want to hear why you are
 interested in our favorite topic!



Florida State Association of
PARLIAMENTARIANS

Let All Things Be Done Decently and in Order

Link to FSAP local unit information:
<https://flparliamentarian.com/local-units/>

Link to NAP to become a member of a unit:
<https://www.parliamentarians.org/reclassification-unit-association/>

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
 OF PARLIAMENTARIANS®

Professional Development Committee
MENTORING PROGRAM

Have you considered
 becoming an
NAP MENTOR?



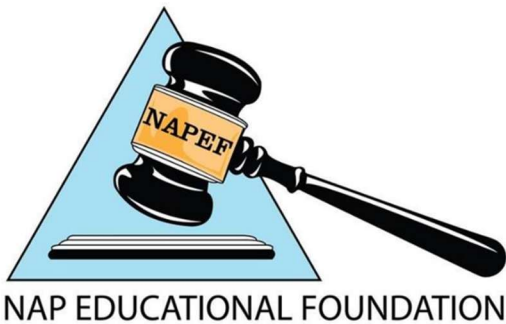
The NAP Professional Development Committee Mentoring Program is in need of Mentors! If you are credentialed and are willing to share your knowledge and time to assist regular members to become credentialed as RPs and RPs to become PRPs, please follow these steps:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
 OF PARLIAMENTARIANS®

2026 NAP National Training Conference ♦ August 26th – 30th

"Tag Your Bags for BHM"
BIRMINGHAM

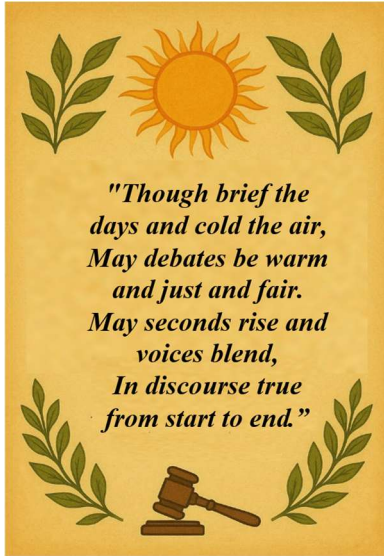
Greater Birmingham Convention & Visitors Bureau
www.inbirmingham.org



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS®

2026 NAP Training Conference
 August 26-30, 2026 • Birmingham, AL





Leading by Serving

Scripture:

“But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.”

—Matthew 23:11 (KJV)

Reflection:

Parliamentary leadership is not about control—it’s about stewardship. The chair does not dominate but facilitates. True greatness in leadership comes from humility, from guiding others to work well together and to reach decisions that reflect the group’s best thinking.

Parliamentary Principle:

The presiding officer serves the assembly by applying the rules with fairness,

Call to Action: Lead not to be heard, but to help others be heard—serve the meeting, not the spotlight



“Leading by
Serving”



Leadership flows
from selfless
service



Convention

- Assembly of delegates chosen specifically for each session
- Bylaws: voting body, powers, duties, quorum, authority, etc.
 - Credential report is adopted to establish voting body
 - Rules are adopted to establish procedures
 - Program is adopted which becomes the order of business
- Minutes approved by a special committee
- Adjournment dissolves the assembly

Skipping Agenda Items

Scenario:	Problem:	Tip:
The chair jumps straight into new business without finishing reports, causing confusion among members.	Skipping agenda items makes the meeting disorganized and leads to unresolved issues.	Follow the agenda in order. Member can interrupt and “Call for the Orders of the Day” RONR (12 th ed). 18:1

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Education & Training

- 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).

WANTED: Judges for Student Competitions - Check your calendar to see if you are available, then contact FSAP Youth Chairman Julie Palm, PRP, to volunteer as a judge in Orlando or in your local school district.

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).