



THE VIRGINIA GAVELETTER

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Editor-in-chief: President – Lynda J. Baer, PRP

Editor: Gladys Jordan

President's Point

Dear Valued Members of VSAP,

Your President appreciates so very much the hard work and competency of you all for contributing to the training, teaching, and learning of parliamentary procedure in these difficult times. Also, this officer is grateful for your perseverance, commitment, support, and friendships. Units have amended their Bylaws to allow for electronic meetings. Many of you have helped other groups to accomplish this important change. Your virtual workshops have served the public and accomplished our goal in these days of challenge. At the end of this month, December, your President will retire as a PRP after 18 years of serving in this capacity. Joining NAP in 1994 has proved to be a rewarding experience and hopefully a delightful adventure for those sharing the journey. Just as retirement from the public library system in 2016 did not terminate my involvement with library activities, retirement from the "P" Professional in PRP will not diminish my love for and participation in parliamentary procedure activities.

with you. Thank you and have a blessed Christmas season.

About 2nd Vice President
Donald Garrett, PRP, in
Elle Magazine

"We turned to Donald Garrett, a millennial and professional parliamentarian (they do exist), to break down the management of 'time' among members of the House and Senate...'The idea is for members to speak in an esteemed manner so that meetings don't break down,' added Garrett, who has been obsessed with *Robert's Rules of Order* since high school and for whom Maxine Waters's 'reclaiming my time' hit single was something of a 'dream come true' (his words). It's not every day that parliamentary procedure and pop culture get married and make a viral baby."

<https://www.elle.com/culture/career-politics/a34397087/maxine-waters-making-of-a-meme/>

Dues are due in December! Please pay promptly.

Reminder from VSAP Bylaws Chair:

All proposed bylaw changes need to be submitted to the bylaws committee by January 6th. Please include any rationale in your submission.

Michael Wagner-Diggs, PRP

Email address:

mwagdigs@gmail.com

Virginia State Association of
Parliamentarians



Unit Updates

Virginia Peninsula Unit

Due to the pandemic and the inability to obtain meeting space, the Virginia Peninsula Unit of NAP had no meetings for March-August of 2020.

They did, however, manage to amend their bylaws in September of 2020 to allow for electronic meetings.

Regular Unit meetings were then held in October and November of 2020 via Zoom.

During January and February, of 2020, the Unit conducted four parliamentary classes on Robert Rules of Order Newly Revised that was targeted primarily for provisional members in the Unit. In March and April of 2020 four of the Unit's provisional members (Sandra Brown, Duane Boone, Stephen Brown, and Gloria Mercado) successfully passed the NAP membership exam and became NAP members and primary members of the Virginia Peninsula Unit.

The Unit is currently considering having a virtual parliamentary workshop during the first quarter of 2021. Further details will be forthcoming.

Willie Watson, Unit President

Fredericksburg Parliamentary Unit

The Fredericksburg Unit had a Special meeting on October 15, 2020, this meeting was to discuss electronic meeting. The use of electronic meeting was approved, and the bylaw has been amended.

In August we had a meet and greet social via Zoom and one new member to join. The Fredericksburg Unit will meet on November 10, 2020 via Zoom.

We also have two individuals who are interested in joining.

Karen Clemons, Unit President

Catherine Wittman Unit

The attendance at the Catherine Wittman Unit meetings has increased, we believe principally because of the ability to meet via Zoom. Last month more than half of the membership participated, including two new members.

As reported in October, we have averaged a new member each month since our June meeting. In addition to the growth in membership we have noted an increased interest in members studying for and taking part of the Registered Parliamentarian exam. We have two cohorts of members studying for the RP.

The Catherine Wittman Chapter has a practice of seeking member participation in the educational portion of our meetings. Members have partnered to teach various subjects for each 40- minute session of our meetings. We have a complete schedule for the remaining months of 2020.

Also, CWU presents a public Parliamentary Law Day training and has allowed members to present at these events only if they have presented during the educational session of the chapter meetings.

The CWU is planning to implement its 2020 Parliamentary Law Day event via Zoom during the late spring. VSAP members should look forward to receiving information about the date and time of this event.

Jacqueline W. Roundtree, PRP, Unit President

Virginia Dalton and Eloise Engledove Richmond Unit of Parliamentarians

VDEER President Cora Salzberg attended NAP Training Conference in August 28-30, 2020.

Unit President met virtually with VDEER Unit October 7, 2020.

Presented ***Rules of Order, Special Rules of Order and Standing Rules Lesson.***

Conducted VDEER Nominating Committee election during the October 7, 2020, Unit meeting. Members of the Nominating Committee are Renee Escophry-Torres, Angela Anderson, and Tyya Turner.

Due to illness and national election obligations the committee did not meet and requested its report to be presented at the December 2, 2020 VDEER Unit meeting.

Cora Salzberg, PRP Unit President

Virginia Alpha Unit of Registered Parliamentarians (VAURP)

Karen Clemons, RP, Chair, Steven Berke, PRP and Brenda Jackson, RP, are members of the Newsletter Committee and have received kudos for producing four editions of an excellent and first-rate VAURP Newsletter.

VAURP President published President's *From the President* article in the 2020 Fall edition of the VAURP Newsletter.

The VAURP President with assistance from Secretary Steven Berke, PRP sent a letter to new and current RPs, PRPs and MALs who are not members of VAURP inviting them to join the unit.

The VAURP President via Secretary Berke sent invitation to current VAURP members informing them of 2019-2020-unit activities and encouraging members to continue their membership and work with bylaws outlined committees.

Through the VAURP Newsletter, the Unit President announced initiatives to address the VAURP Bylaw Object *To provide members a forum for presenting parliamentary problems.* VAURP President solicited members to submit parliamentary procedure problems that they have encountered and seek advice. Members were

directed to send their statement/question to Steven Berke, Unit Secretary at sjberke@aol.com, and Cora Salzberg, Unit President at linkcora@comcast.net. Questions and responses will be published in the VAURP Newsletter and online. The Alpha Unit President appointed **Problems/Questions/Advice Research Committee Members:** Michael Wagner-Diggs, Beatrice Squire and Mary Loose DeViney. Craig Mayo, RP agreed to serve as Public Relations Committee Chair and spearhead activities to address Bylaw Object *to serve as a resource for other NAP units, schools, or community organizations seeking educational programs on parliamentary procedure, advice on parliamentary problems, or the services of a professional parliamentarian.*

VAURP purchased a Zoom account for Executive Board and Regular unit meetings. Appointed Karen Clemons, Steven Berke and Brenda Jackson to the Zoom Committee.

Alpha Unit President appointed the NAP Tile Special Committee, which includes Beatrice Squire, Chair, Brenda Jackson and Karen Clemons. This committee will report at the November Executive Board and Alpha Unit Meetings.

Alpha Unit elected the Nominating Committee, which includes Michael

Wagner-Diggs, Margie Booker and Beatrice Squire.

Appointed Valarie Jones to the Bylaws Committee.

Cora Salzberg, PRP, Unit President

Chesapeake Unit

The Chesapeake Unit has elected Michael Wagner-Diggs as President. They have several new members.

Michael Wagner-Diggs, PRP, Unit President

Parliamentary Law Club

Executive meetings on Zoom in September and October. The Club has a new member and adopted a bylaw for electronic meetings.

Gladys Jordan, Club Member

Northern Virginia Marching and Gavel Society Unit

NOVAMags amended bylaws to allow for electronic meetings. A member has been hosting the Zoom meetings through December 2020.

Beatrice Squire, RP, Unit President

M. Stanley Ryan Unit of Parliamentarians

This Unit has decided to order new books for the Unit. Another purchase was Zoom Pro. The Unit has

continued to hold competitions. Stran Trout, PRP-R, has returned as an active member. A guest also joined the Unit.

Sala Powell-Dabney, Unit President

From District Two Director Dr. Cynthia Mayo, PRP

NOTICE to District Two Associations
SAVE the Date!

This message is sent to notify
District Two members of the
Virtual Conference, January 30, 2021,
10:00 AM-12:30 PM

Agenda:
Election of District Two Director
Two Exciting Workshops
RP Credentialing Updates

Online Registration:

<https://napdistricttwo2021.eventbrite.com>

Welcome!!
New Members

Kristin Beery
Gloria Mercado
Vnai Ashe
Felicia Fett
Mary Redd-Clary
Iantha Smiley

All VSAP mourns with member
Gladys Jordan on the death of her
wonderful daughter
Patricia Selene Jordan.

The family will have a
Celebration of Life service
for family and friends later.

Silent Gavel

Sadly, we have also received news of
the death of past VSAP President
Raymond Hardy Duke "Ray." He has
served in many capacities in VSAP.
Currently he was the treasurer of the
Virginia Alpha Unit of Registered
Parliamentarians (VAURP). He
served as the President of VSAP from
2013-2015. A Proclamation will be
presented at the 2021 VSAP
Convention during the Memorial
Service.

1937-2020



Executive Committee

Elected Officers

President Lynda Baer, PRP
1st Vice President Beatrice Squire, RP
2nd Vice President Donald Garrett, PRP
Recording Secretary Rhiannon Liker
Treasurer Dr. Cynthia Mayo, PRP

Appointed Officers

Corresponding Secretary
Brenda Jackson
Editor-in-Chief *Gaveletter*
Lynda Baer, PRP
Historian Yulanda Humphrey
Parliamentarian
Mary Loose DeViney, PRP
(*ex officio*)

Standing Committee Chairs

Budget and Finance
Donald Garrett, PRP
Bylaws
Michael Wagner-Diggs, PRP
Education Beatrice Squire, RP
Membership Gerry Gunn
Publicity/Public Relations
Gladys Jordan and Vivian Minor
Youth Development
Dr. Cora Salzberg, PRP

Special Committee

Information Technology
Donald Garrett PRP