

Daily Newsletter

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Don't Be Intimidated By the Process

NAPS Parliamentarian Bruce Bishop instructed NAPS delegates about parliamentary procedure and its role in the national convention Sunday afternoon at the Delegates' and Auxiliary Orientation. Bishop said it's an honor to serve as NAPS' parliamentarian. This is his third NAPS convention.

The main focus of the convention, he pointed out, is to make decisions. What is the best way for a group to make decisions and ensure that, once those decisions are made, they are supported by the entire group? By following parliamentary procedure.

Parliamentary procedure provides a set of rules for everyone to follow in relation to how decisions are made. It assures everyone has a fair opportunity to impact outcomes by engaging in debate and voting.

Bishop stressed that parliamentary procedure is not designed to speed things up. Rather, it's designed to promote efficiency and the effective use of time. "The rules prohibit delegates from going off on a tangent," he explained. "Delegates must speak about the issue before them."

The rules are designed to prevent abuse of the microphone and other peoples' time. "The process is not supposed to be speedy if you want to give everyone the opportunity to have a voice," he said.

Parliamentary procedure maintains an orderly process of decision-making. The presiding officer—NAPS President Brian Wagner—controls the meeting and maintains order. NAPS delegates are the decision-makers. All business is conducted through motions; there is no difference between motions and resolutions.

Bishop explained that motions are subject to debate, but not everything needs to be debated. He made the distinction that a debate is not a discussion. The resolutions are discussed by the committees; debates are arguments in favor and arguments opposed.

He said it's important that delegates be informed, are familiar with the agenda, participate in debate, ask responsible questions, keep the debate relevant to the pending issue and don't monopolize the conversation. Most important: Vote!

Bishop stressed that delegates should not abuse "personal privilege." "You have a lot of business to do and a lot of resolutions in front of you," he said. "Although we're here to have a good time and network, we need to make sure the business of the organization gets accomplished."

"Parliamentary procedure is designed to promote efficiency and effective decision-making," Bishop surmised. "It does not assure good decisions; that's up to you—the delegates."

SPAC Walkathon

Participants in Thursday morning's SPAC Walkathon will meet in the lobby at 6:30 a.m. See Richard Strickland to register for the event at the SPAC table in the Uncas Pre-Function Area. T-shirts are available for pick up there, as well. If you don't participate in the walkathon, you still can purchase one of the vivid, tie-dyed walkathon T-shirts for \$20; all proceeds go to SPAC.

Reminders from Sheri Davies

The Sheraton Denver and Hyatt New Orleans will present their bids for the 2022 NAPS National Convention Thursday af-

ternoon in the business session. Please refer to pages 18 and 19 in the *One Book* for a comparison of the two properties. Thursday evening, both properties will have receptions. Refer to Thursday's *Daily Newsletter* for times and locations.

Complimentary breakfast buffets are available Thursday and Friday, 7 to 8:30 a.m., in the Uncas Pre-Function Area for delegates during the convention week.

The Western Region luncheon will be Thursday, 12:15 p.m., in Earth Ballroom 1. The Eastern Region luncheon will be 12:15 p.m. in Earth Ballroom 2.

Monday at the Convention

Host Branch Convention Chair Lisa Douglas welcomed delegates to the NAPS 66th National Convention Monday morning. Mohegan Tribe Chief Lynn Malerba, whose Tribal name is Chief Many Hearts, addressed NAPS members and talked about the history of her Tribe.

Uncasville Postmaster Ashley Bigelow-Johnson welcomed delegates. She said the Postal Service will have a table Friday, 8:30 a.m. to noon, for delegates to mail packages home.

Greater Boston District Manager Michael Rakes said the convention's theme, "Passion, Purpose, People," resonates with everyone in the room. "You are where the rubber meets the road," he said. "You keep the company going."

Rakes acknowledged the challenging times. But he assured NAPS members that the Postal Service is here to stay and will continue to prosper. "Taking care of our people is so important," he said. "We need to come together and take care of our employees. Having passion for what you do is important and goes a long way; people will follow you."

Connecticut Valley District Manager David Mastroianni stressed the importance of service. "We've been the business for service; it doesn't change," he declared. "Service to our customers is paramount."

He also stressed the importance of communication. "When you tell people the reason why, they understand and are committed. Listen to what everyone says and leave with something good."

National Auxiliary President Patricia Jackson Kelley thanked everyone for their support. The Auxiliary was established Sept. 20, 1933. It works closely with NAPS to make sure its members' voices are heard.

"We are proud of our SPAC efforts and the record-breaking amounts raised at the past two Legislative Training Seminars," she declared. "If your branch does not have an auxiliary, we encourage you to establish one."

Northeast Area Vice President Ed Phelan told delegates that NAPS is near and dear to his heart. He said these are trying times for everyone in the organization.

Phelan talked about working with NAPS Northeast Region Vice President Tommy Roma and New York Area Vice President Jimmy Warden regarding SWCs. "We've tried to come up with the best way of looking at it," he explained, "which is working with the people who do the jobs."

"We're trying to develop something that makes more sense to you and the organization. We need to be realistic about when we need supervisors and how we get the work done. We hope to have something in the next few months that is an improvement on what we have."

Phelan talked about the heroic efforts of postal employees in Puerto Rico since the hurricane. "Our friends in Puerto Rico have overcome major challenges," he said. "If you don't think we're leaders, read the stories from the islands." He reiterated the important role the Postal Service plays and its value in the aftermath of natural disasters. People rely on the agency.

"Our job is service," he proclaimed. "We all have the same mission: Be successful for the organization."

UPMA Co-President Sean Acord addressed delegates during the afternoon session. He said the past four years have been challenging. One of the common issues

NAPS and UPMA have had to face is the ongoing legislative struggle to get meaningful postal reform legislation passed.

"Working to see postal reform passed is a priority," he said, "but it seems to have hit an iron curtain when it comes to the whole legislative process." Despite the bill having bipartisan support in Congress, as well as the support of the unions, mailers and stakeholders, progress has stalled.

"It makes you question the political process," he pointed out. "But it's the process we have and must work through. We must continue to work to make sure the USPS is in good, sound shape. Current legislation provides for flexibility and would allow us to adapt to the ever-changing environment."

Acord remarked that the jobs EAS employees have now are not the ones they had six years ago. "I hope everyone here is thankful for the job they have," he said. "I am thankful for my job, but how many of you love the job you currently have? If you do, you probably are in the minority."

"I also hope everyone in this room doesn't make the Postal Service your life. I see that a lot. You need to have a life outside of work."

In Memoriam

Following are more names of members who have died since the 2016 National Convention:

Bill Weber, past Branch 20 president
Edna Holmes, Branch 548
John Holmes, 548
Teak Williams, 548
James DiBiase, 224
Joseph Testa, 224
Russell Ginert, 224
Bridget Cross, 53
Robert Gordon, 53
Pedro Vazquez, 224
William Pagano, 53

SPAC News

During the 2016 congressional elections, the average House candidate spent \$1.3 million; the average Senate candidate spent \$10.4 million. In 2016, SPAC gave over \$270,000 to our postal friends and champions, ensuring they remain on Capitol Hill, fighting to support our issues for a sustainable United States Postal Service.

There are multiple opportunities during this convention week to support SPAC and our legislative efforts. NAPS members can buy SPAC raffles tickets through Friday and enter to win prizes donated by branches, as well as the Executive Board gift cards.

As a special treat, Royal Oak, MI, Branch 508 is selling tickets for a week's getaway in sunny Orlando, FL. If you have questions about the raffles, please see SPAC Manager Katie Maddocks outside the Uncas Ballroom.

At the end of the day Monday, more than \$12,000 has been raised. Thank you all so much for your support of NAPS and SPAC!

Report of Hans Agldian

The report for Mideast Area Vice President was inadvertently left out of the *One Book*. Here is his report:

"This national convention, I will complete 14 years of service as a member of the NAPS Executive Board, representing the Mideast Area. I am not going to go through a long litany of issues that have been dealt with or if they have been accomplished; it will be up to the members of the Mideast Area and the national membership to make that determination. As I come to the end of my tenure, I wish the board well in its endeavors.

"I would like to thank the members of the Mideast Area for their support throughout the years. I also want to thank all the friends I have made and the individuals with whom I have been able to work while in this position.

"Above all, I want to thank my wife and family, without whose support I could not have accomplished any of this."

New Convention App

Don't forget to try out the new mobile NAPS convention app. Go to your app store or Google Play and search for "NAPS Conventions." After you download the app, open and press the "Download" button for the event. Once you see the event, "NAPS 2018 National Convention," you can log in to access all the features.