To Certify—Or Not to Certify—That is the Question? by Linda A. Juteau, CPP-T, PRP, AIP CP Division Chairman

Have you been contemplating sitting for the CP written exam? Have you talked yourself in and out of making the decision? If that sounds like you—let’s talk!

Back in 1999, I was faced with making the same decision and struggled with whether or not to make the financial and time investment required to achieve the Certified Parliamentarian rating. Let me tell you why I decided that it was worth the effort.

First of all, there is nothing like a good challenge, and achieving the CP rating would definitely be a big one.

Second, the old adage that “anything worth doing is worth doing well” is still true. If you want to be a professional parliamentarian, it stands to reason that you would want to

In most anything we have done for more than a few years, many of us will start to experience problems staying excited and engaged. I have experienced this over the years. For example, when I first started caring for my mother in 2004, it was exciting to have her living with me. We played games, talked and she actually helped with some of the household duties. I was pleased that she and I could cook good food and enjoy it together. However, I am finding it more difficult to enjoy those same activities with my mother. WHY?

Here is another example, when I first joined American Institute of Parliamentarians I remember telling anyone coming in close contact with me that I was a member of AIP. Attending the Annual Session was an awesome experience especially when asked to do some small task or to work on a committee. There was energy and excitement as I prepared for whatever task was assigned.

As many of you know, I am the primary care giver for my now 88-year-old mother who still lives with me. Mom has dementia and there is the tendency for her to repeat herself often. Many times one hour is much like the last hour. When dealing with my mother, I have noticed that my attention span is short as I can anticipate every word and action. To appease my lack of interest, I say, “Caring for an elderly parent with dementia is difficult, which causes me to be very tired.” However, I’ve noticed I am not too tired if someone else comes along and needs my time, energy, kindness and expertise.

How is it with you? Do you find it easy to be engaging and exciting with new situations, activities and organizations? But after a while, do you become bored, lethargic and exhibit a ‘don’t care’ attitude once those activities have become familiar?

Maybe the problem is being able to “keeping it fresh” which means that I am not just going through the motions but I am fully engaged with what has been placed in front of me. Often we think that success means that we limit the time we spend with people at home so we can focus on our other more exciting activities, but I have found the more I make home a priority the more I grow in my other activities.

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“Keeping it fresh” means that familiar activities deserve my best, even more than my newest activity. I am learning the importance to ‘keeping it fresh’ with mundane activities which have been completed over and over again. Learning and practicing an attitude at home of ‘keeping it fresh’ helps at home and with AIP.

The key is to decide to “keeping it fresh” and taking time to do whatever needs to be done. Here’s to “keeping it fresh” with everything you do!
NEWSLETTER DEADLINES
Deadline for submissions for the newsletter are the first day of February, May, August, November. Items can be sent to communicator@aipparl.org
2012 Annual Session

Details will be printed and posted to the website as plans develop, but here is the basic information concerning the 2012 Annual Session.

Dates: July 19 - 21, 2012

Site:

RADISSON HOTEL FORT WORTH NORTH—FOSSIL CREEK
2540 Meacham Boulevard • Fort Worth, TX 76106
817-625-9911 (Main) • 817-740-4605 (Direct)
www.radisson.com/ftworthtx_north

Local Transportation: From DFW: Taxi or Shuttle

Cost from DFW is $22 one way or $42 round trip (give code of 2U38R)

Room rate: $99 per person, pre tax
Includes WiFi throughout hotel & complimentary shuttle to local attractions. Breakfast is available in the Main Street Cafe for $8.95.

Mary Remson, PRP, CP-T, and Linda Juteau, PRP, CPP-T, help illustrate a point during parliamentary education program at the 2011 Annual Session.
Clockwise from top left: Dollie McPartlin, CP-T, PRP, addresses the 2012 West Coast Practicum.

2012 Practicum Class Picture: Ed Tracy (2013 Class President); Teresa Stone, CP, PRP (2012 Class President); Mary Remson, CP-T, PRP (AIP President); Dollie McPartlin, CP-T; Ann Rempel, CPP-T, PRP; Barry Glazer, CPP-T; Jeanette Williams, CP-T, PRP; Barry Glazer, CPP-T; Ann Rempel, CPP-T, PRP; Dollie McPartlin; Mary Remson, CP-T, PRP; Ed Tracy; Teresa Stone, CP, PRP.
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(Continued from page 1)

earn the highest standards established for the profession.

Third, having the CP credential gives credenance to the individual who has made the financial and time commitment necessary to achieve it, and once you have you will want to continue and become a Certified Professional Parliamentarian.

Don’t know where to start? You might consider starting with AIP’s correspondence or online courses. This is an excellent way to build your knowledge and become more familiar with the principles of parliamentary procedure.

Not long ago I was serving a new client and was introduced as a Certified Professional Parliamentarian and the president stated, “I’m very impressed because I had no idea there was such a thing.” Following the meeting a number of individuals approached me and asked how I became certified and they too were impressed that there was such a credentialing process for parliamentarians. Of course, the decision is up to you, but there couldn’t be a better time than right now because the exam will be given using the 10th edition of Robert’s and the 4th edition of The Standard Code until the summer of 2012. After that you will have to sink your teeth into the 11th edition of RONR and the newest edition of The Standard Code!

CONGRATULATIONS!
The AIP Board of Directors recently approved the membership reclassifications of the following people:

- **Alison Wallis**
  CP #428

- **Steven Gournades**
  Add teacher credential

- **Jesse Binnall**
  Reinstated as CPP-T #281

Get ready for the
EAST COAST PRACTICUM
Theme: **Officer and Member Discipline**
Instructors: **Burke Balch and Eli Mina**

Maritime Institute, Baltimore, MD
June 8 -10, 2012

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BYLAWS SUBMISSIONS

The Bylaws and Standing Orders Committee has established a deadline of March 15 for submission of any proposed amendments to be considered at the 2012 Annual Meeting, to allow time for the committee to review the proposals and make a recommendation. As provided in Article XV, Section 4 of the AIP Bylaws:

Amendments to the bylaws, action program, code of ethics, and standing orders may be originated by one of the following methods: (1) an act of the board; (2) majority vote of the bylaws and standing orders committee; (3) petition signed by at least five members; or (4) motion at an annual session. All amendments shall be referred to the bylaws and standing orders committee.

EXAM REQUIREMENTS CHANGING

All AIP certification exams will cover information in RONR 11 and the AIP Standard Code beginning with 2012 Annual Session in Fort Worth.

The January and June exams for Certified Parliamentarian and Certified Professional Parliament will be the last opportunities to test on material in RONR 10 and Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure 4th Edition.

Parliamentary Journal Call for Submissions

The Parliamentary Journal seeks quality articles of interest to AIP members.

Articles concerned with the simple aspects of parliamentary procedure may be of interest to new members; while articles focused on more nuanced elements of procedure are welcomed by more advanced members. Regardless of how technical your article is, it may find a welcome reception in the Parliamentary Journal. Submit your articles to the editor at pj@aipparl.org, who will determine its suitability.

FIRST CPP BOOT CAMP WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!

Enrollment filled fast for the Accrediting Department’s first CPP Boot Camp. The attendees ended the camp excited about taking the CPP Exam.

Are you a fan of AIP?

Did you know AIP now has a Facebook page? Are you signed up as a fan? Receive instant notifications of upcoming AIP events and breaking news sent straight to your Facebook page. Share pictures from AIP events with other fans.

Within Facebook, you can search for www.facebook.com/aipparl
NEW MEMBERS TO AIP
The following individuals joined AIP from August 2011 through November 2011. Be a supportive member and contact any who live near you.

John Wiley Baucum III, DDS
537 Gordon
Corpus Christi, TX  78404

Susan Berry
Sturgeon County
9613 - 100 Street
Morinville, AB T8R 1L9 Canada

Nanette M. Best
Sturgeon County
9613 - 100 Street
Morinville, AB T8R 1W3 Canada

Kathleen Casavant
6 Breakwater Dr.
Chelsea, MA  2150

Michael Robert Cheney
P.O. Box 197
Havana, IL  62644

Cheryl Ann Cochran
14 Goldspire Lane
Burlington, NJ  08016

Paul Thomas Crawford, RP
104 Cemetery Rd.
Uxbridge, ON L9P 0B3 Canada

Jason Gariepy
Councillor, Ward 8,
Strathcona County
2001 Sherwood Dr.
Sherwood Park, AB T8A 3W7

Andrew Granger
19103 Theall Rd.
Abbeville, LA  70510

Betty J. Gray
19915 Shakerwood Rd
Warrensville Heights, OH  44122

Brianna Harris
490 Hickory Glen Lane
Atlanta, GA  30311

Lola Harris
829 Cyrene St.
Carson, CA  90746

Dominic Holzhaus
Long Beach City Hall
333 West Ocean Blvd
Principal Deputy City Attorney
Long Beach, CA  90802

Farley G Hoppes Sr.
3861 E. 186 St.
Cleveland, OH  44122

Michele J. Jones
West Virginia State University
Alumni Assoc
1077 Sussex Rd.
Teaneck, NJ  07666

Neal Knox
2100 Washington St. #2
Bluefield, WV  24701

Rodney Charles Kyle
111 West Georgia St.
Suite 2901
Vancouver, BC V6B 1T8  Canada

Novella C Leggon-Collins
7514 Richmond Rd.
Oakwood Village, OH  44146

Joshua Cameron Martin, PRP
10508 Quebec Ave. North
Brooklyn Park, MN  55445

Joey Mattingly
5614 Harrods Cv.
Prospect, KY  40059

David Howell McCarley
2315 W. Virginia Pkwy.
McKinney, TX  75070

Joel E. Natt
4335 Evans Farms Dr.
Cumming, GA  30040

John R. Novack
IAA
1701 Towanda Ave.
Bloomington, IL  61701

L Stephen Ortego, DDS
P.O. Box 766
Ball, LA  71405

Ian Pac-Urar, PhD
3355 Ridgewood Rd.
Fairlawn, OH  44333

Saif Ali Sheikh
Saudi Electricity Co.
Room No. 2-115 E
P.O. BOX 5190
Dammam 31422 Saudi Arabia

Wanda M Sims, RP
76 Inkberry Circle
Gaithersburg, MD  20877

Mabel R Smith
1098 Woodview Rd.
Cleveland, OH  44121

George E. Van Lowe
St James AME Church
395 Eddy Rd.
Cleveland, OH  44108

Willo Vaughters
7219 Blackwell Dr.
Oakwood Village, OH  44146

Elizabeth Watson
132 Northshore Dr.
Burlington, VT  05408

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS
AIP’s generous members have made contributions to the funds of their choice during the period July-November 2011. We invite you to consider making one or more of these funds the recipient of your generosity.

GENERAL:
Paul T. Crawford, RP
Michael E. Malamut, CPP-T, PRP
Emile Ransom, Jr.
Jeanette N. Williams, CP-T, PRP
The 2011 AIP Board of Directors (standing, left to right): Ron Stinson, PRP, CP-T; Weldon Merritt, PRP, CP; Mary L. Randolph, PRP, CPP-T; Edra Anderson; Helen McFadden, PRP; James N. Jones, PRP, CPP-T; Dottie McPartlin, PRP, CP-T; Ann L. Rempe, PRP, CPP-T; Luce Anderson, PRP; Rob James, PRP. (seated, left to right) Mark Schillansky, PRP, CPP-T; Mary Remson, PRP, CP-T; Alison Wallis, PRP