Dear AIP members,

The Annual Session was all that could be hoped. Kudos to the newest member of the Order of the Blue Dot: Ann Guiberson. Ann joins the ranks of other members who have served as an Annual Session Coordinator, and who wear their blue dots with pride.

A favorite thing at the last two Annual Sessions has been an event “out” from the hotel, exploring the area where we are meeting. This year, the Starship Princess Yacht and Dinner Cruise was our special destination. A fun dinner and tour around Tampa Bay made for a great kick-off to our festivities.

We also conducted Skills Workshops at the 2017 Annual Session. We offered two skill-building workshops: Tampa local Judy Gray taught us how to write an article or book. CPP-member Al Gage conducted a workshop which compared various parliamentary authorities.

In addition to the business of the Annual Session, there were delightful workshops. Thanks to presenters Leah Raye Mabry, Glen Hall, Kay Crews, Chuck Schulz, Ann Guiberson, Craig Henry and Eli Mina for their presentations and willingness to share their knowledge. Extra special thanks to Colette Trohan, who filled in at the last minute when a “bonus” workshop time opened up due to the early conclusion of bylaws consideration.

Thanks, too, to the special luncheon presentations: Gene Bierbaum talking about the early history of the AIP practicums, and the FFA parliamentary procedure team from Lake Butler High School in Florida, a national FFA team finalist from last year, gave a wonderful team demonstration. Chuck Schulz took up the baton of serving as AIP auctioneer, and auctioned off two books donated by Eli Mina. The books, both purchased by past AIP President Mary Smith, were then donated.

continued on page 5
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Additional information regarding dates and registration will be available on the AIP website at http://www.aipparl.org as they become available.

West Coast Practicum
February 8-10, 2018
Hampton Inn Tropicana
Las Vegas, NV

East Coast Practicum
June, 2018

Annual Session
August 1-5, 2018
Le Pavillon Hotel
New Orleans, LA

Deadline Dates for the “Communicator”
November 15, 2017 December Issue
February 15, 2018 March Issue
Where’s My Charger?

Where’s my charger? Have you seen my charger? The one for my iPad. I found the one for my phone.”

What does your charger look like? When and where did you last use it? Parliamentarians found a variety of “chargers” at the July 2017 AIP Annual Session! Plenty of parliamentary exchange especially over proposed changes to standing rules. Excellent workshops, exemplary presiding by President Kay Crews and lots of microphone activity made for lively sessions! The first night dinner cruise aboard the yacht was the perfect launch! Great food and a scenic cruise!

Thanks to Larry Cisar, plenty of pictures captured the activities! See these at www.aip.org. Thanks to Annual Session coordinator Ann Guiberson and husband, Ron, for making it look effortless. Some drivers even took their passengers on a special tour of downtown Tampa as a bonus to finding the boat.

Congratulations to the officers elected for the next biennium. See details inside!

What Happened to Howard? A Cautionary Tale

By Kay Crews

I was just back from the West Coast Practicum in California, and I was working with a client for three days. The members of the client’s Board were staying at a fancy, well-known, high-dollar hotel in the Dallas area. Presidents, royalty, rock stars and Kardashians have all stayed there. Thursday morning, there was a lot of whispering when I arrived. The question on everyone’s lips? “What happened to Howard?”

There were lots of innuendoes – hookers, the bar, and someone getting beaten up were all possibilities. And then Howard showed up. Howard is a nice guy, an attorney, about my age, relatively fit and in good shape. His face had wicked scratches down the center and the sides. Multiple bruises marred his face, and he had several deep cuts and scratches on his face, hands, and arms. Cracked ribs made it painful for him to walk, or even to breathe. He was a mess.

What happened to Howard?

Howard had been hanging out in the bar with several other Board members. The hotel was full, and there was a lot of activity in the bar. A young, slight, fresh-faced woman had been sitting at the bar next to Howard, who was on the end of his group. It was Howard’s turn to pay, and at the end of the night he went to close out his tab. The bartender asked him for his room number, and when Howard gave it to him, he repeated it back to Howard for confirmation. The tab was closed, and Howard went up to his room.

About half-an-hour later, the young, slight, fresh-faced woman who had been sitting at the bar next to Howard showed up at his door. Howard assumed he had left something at the bar, and opened the door. From behind the young woman, another much larger individual came around and shoved into Howard’s room. The two beat and attempted to rob Howard. Fortunately, someone else down the hall heard his shout, and called hotel security. The two were unsuccessful in their robbery attempt, but were successful in scaring and hurting Howard.

Why do I share this story? We all travel. Either for AIP events, to work with clients, or to see our families. Even the “best” hotels have all sorts of security challenges. Here are a few tips I try to maintain for my own security when traveling:

• Never charge anything to your room; instead, put it on a separate credit card.
• Never give your room number to anyone you don’t know, and never share it in a crowded venue.
• Discard the cardboard sleeve that has your room number on it. Carry an old sleeve from a different hotel and use that to protect the key.
• Take a picture of your room number with your phone to remember the room number, if needed (I stay in a LOT of hotels.)
• If you’re just staying for a day or two, ask if they will give you extra points or other amenities for not having maid service.
• Consider putting your most frequently used Frequent Flyer number on your luggage tags, rather than your home address and phone number.

Howard is going to be fine, but his story could have had a more tragic end. Remember to stay safe as you travel!
**WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS OF AIP**

Welcome new members of AIP - June through August 2017. Be a supportive member and contact any who live near you.

Matthew Arseneault  
19 Manila Avenue  
Hyde Park, MA 02136

Mary Ellen Kilbane  
1520 Gulf Blvd. #1501  
Clearwater, FL 33767

Janet Rosequist  
Tilton, NH 03276

Ernest Baptist  
536 Cooper Street  
Grand Prairie, TX 75052

Russell Kohl  
18005 Canterbury Drive  
Stilwell, KS 66085

Robert Sheely  
1060 University Blvd.  
Middletown, OH 45042

William D. Bell  
2909 Wenwood Road  
Abilene, TX 79606

Joy Maxey  
455 E. Paces Ferry Rd NE, Suite 212  
Atlanta, GA 30305

Edward Tirpack  
16 Brady Court  
Sparta, NJ 07871

Aleksandra Carling  
PO Box 11687  
Las Vegas, NV 89111

Micah Rainey  
326 PR 1028  
Stephenville, TX 76401

Alan Wynn  
12280 Pondwater Court  
Woodbridge, VA 22192

Dorothy Colom  
PO Box 708  
Columbus, MS 39703

Thank You For Your Contributions

AIP’s generous members have made contributions to the funds of their choice. We invite you to consider making one or more of these funds the recipient of your generosity.

James Brady  
Al Gage  
Rosemary Seghatoleslami

June Crawford  
Glen Hall  
Mary D. Smith

Kay Crews  
Martha Haun  
John Szewczyk

Todd Crowder  
W. Craig Henry  
Jeanette Williams

Marie-Lynn Diaz De Leon  
Helen McFadden
to two AIP Scholarship attendees present. The funds raised were donated to AIPEF.

We also celebrated a new credential: M Carling was awarded his CP credential. Congratulations, M!

Turning to future events, I can now announce that the **2018 West Coast Practicum** will be held February 8-10 at the Hampton Inn Tropicana in Las Vegas. Curriculum Director Mary Remson has found two instructors: Barry Glazer and Kay Crews. A blast will come soon announcing the specific topic, which will deal with Amendments.

There are a LOT of people doing a LOT of work behind the scenes for AIP! BUT, a couple of gaps could still be filled: **How can you help AIP?** We’re looking for the following:

- **Education Director:** Ruth Ryan resigned due to family obligations. I seek a CP-T or CPP-T who can complete the term (through Annual Session 2018).

If you think you can help, please let me know at president@aipparl.org!

I hope to see you, too, at an AIP event this spring. Remember to keep looking for ways to help advance the cause of AIP.

Kay

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*AIP officers, Kay Crews, Barbara Rosi, Daniel Ivey-Soto and Robert Peskin.*
AIP Annual Session delegates enjoyed a delicious dinner cruise on beautiful Tampa Bay.

Left, Kay Crews and Martha Haun partying on Star Ship cruise.
AIP Annual Session delegates enjoy a short break between sessions.

Auctioneer extraordinaire Chuck Shultz, Dr. Leah Raye Mabry, Edward M. Moore.
February 8-10, 2018
37th Annual AIP West Coast Practicum

The Hampton Inn Tropicana, Las Vegas, Nevada, is the venue for the 37th annual AIP West Coast Practicum. Conveniently located off the Las Vegas Strip, the hotel is about six miles from McCarran International Airport. Shuttle is free.

Also free are in-room WiFi and breakfast if you tell the hotel that you are with AIP when making your reservation. The only meal not included in the practicum registration fee is Friday evening dinner. The registration form may be found on the AIP website (www.AIPParl.org). Be sure to register before 12/01/17 to take advantage of the discount!

Our two outstanding leaders, Kay Crews, CPP, PRP, and Barry Glaser, CPP-T, will guide our study of “Motions” using both Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised as well as the American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure. All levels of instruction will be presented and practiced.

Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to grow in your parliamentary knowledge! For hotel reservations, call (800) HILTONS or (702) 948-8123, state that you are with AIP (for the rate of $124/night plus tax) and be sure to go to AIPParl.org and register before 12/1/17. Or you can call #888-664-0428 to register.

AIP practicums provide a safe environment to learn and practice parliamentary skills. This practicum will help all attendees to improve their presiding skills many times over! Please join us for an enjoyable and exciting learning experience in Las Vegas, Nevada. Start: 8 a.m., February 8, 2018
Concludes: after the banquet, February 10, 2017.

Curriculum Director Mary Remson, CPP-T, PRP is planning an educational program that you won’t want to miss!

Dollie McPartlin, CP-T, PRP
Coordinator, West Coast Practicum