

AIP Communicator

Fall 2019



The Airplane Speech

By Al Gage, CPP, PRP, PAP



Dear AIP members,

Hello all! I am very excited to have been elected AIP President for 2019-2020. I started to say, “and I can’t wait to go to work for you,” but that has already occurred. Admittedly, I am a little overwhelmed by the administrivia of the job, but I believe I can get through it.

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One of the things I would like to talk to you about is your “airplane speech.” Some of you may know it as an elevator speech, but I find that you can’t complete the task of an elevator speech for parliamentarians in the time it takes to ride an elevator, unless of course it gets stuck. I am talking about that awkward moment when you sit on a plane and the person asks you what you do for a living. Of course, you respond, “I am a professional parliamentarian!” They always respond in one of two ways.

The first way they respond is, “Wow, you don’t even have a British accent!” The second one is more common and entails a long blank stare while they consider whether to feign as if they know what that is or just simply say, “What is that?” I know many of you are not working parliamentarians but all of you have expressed an interest in the topic and I am sure ALL of you have a higher level of knowledge of parliamentary procedure when compared to the general public.



So how do you answer that question? I have heard answers such as a parliamentarian is a meeting facilitator, or we are experts in meeting procedure. These responses usually evoke the same blank stare! We all seem to eventually get back around to have you ever heard of Robert’s Rules of Order? Usually, one of these responses will result at least some level of understanding.

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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

House of Delegates, Conventions, and Annual Sessions

January 16-18, 2020

Alexis Park All Suite Resort

Las Vegas, NV

East Coast Practicum

May/June 2020

Annual Session

July 29 - August 1, 2020

Hilton Charlotte Executive Park

Charlotte, NC

Deadline Dates for the “Communicator”

November 15, 2019	Winter 2020 Issue
February 15, 2020	Spring 2020 Issue
May 15, 2020	Summer 2020 Issue
August 15, 2020	Fall 2020 Issue

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Our immediate past President says this, "I'm a professional parliamentarian! It's a small profession, and I may be the only one you will ever meet! I'm a specialist in making meetings run more efficiently-especially meetings like your (fill in the blank, HOA, Union, Board). Generally, any group that elects its own officers can benefit from having a specialist who helps them ensure that the meetings are run effectively and according to the rules which everyone has agreed to beforehand."

I really like that explanation, but it is not the one I use. This may be because I am a bit of a bull-in-a-china-shop but here is what I usually say, "I am a professional parliamentarian which is kind of like a meeting referee except we don't get to throw any flags, blow any whistles or issue any colored cards and there is no penalty box." And then I stop! This will almost always prompt at least a few follow up questions



Believe it or not, this little sentence gives someone with no experience in the field a pretty good picture of what

we do. Many times, they will also throw in the questions during the conversation of "so you are an attorney?" To which I reply that I am not and explain that an attorney in many occasions takes on an advocacy role, while we generally are neutral. In other words, we call balls and strikes in order to have a fair meeting. As our current parliamentarian is fond of saying when you are presiding or giving advice to the chairman, "Sell the call!"

I am going to pause there for a minute and acknowledge that most of you are not professional parliamentarians. There is a very simple fix there! You are all students of parliamentary procedure at some level. There are so many organizations out there that could use a professional or even an amateur parliamentarian. I just watched a video of a meeting where the chair ruled people out of order or ignored points of order over 70 times. Not one member knew how to overcome that situation. Any of the FFA students who have become members of our organizations could have helped that body with or without a credential.



So now I will finally get to my point, all of the members of AIP have to help in spreading the word to the general public about what parliamentary procedure is, why it is sorely needed, and what a detrimental effect not having at least a basic skill level has on a member of any organization in which they can vote. The license plates that you see in the pictures included herein, largely go without an understanding by the general public.

I look forward to working for you for the next year and hopefully we can have an impact on the lack of understanding by the general public.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS OF AIP

Welcome new members of AIP through August 23, 2019. Be a supportive member and contact any who live near you.

Troy Behnke
701 Buchanan Street NW
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Matthew Grierson
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AIP Education Committee Report

Teachers Course Planned for West Coast Practicum

By Joe L. Theobald, PhD, CP-T, PRP, AIP Education Director

Teachers' Course

There was a great deal of interest expressed (again) at our recent annual session in AIP holding a Teachers' Course as soon as possible. AIP will hold a Teachers' Course in conjunction with the West Coast Practicum next year. It is a two-day course currently scheduled to immediately precede the WCP on January 14-15, 2020. Further details should be available by the first part of November this year. As a reminder, CPs and CPPs may earn the T credential after completing the course and satisfying the teaching experience requirements.

Curriculum for the T course is very detailed and extensive. As a result, enrollment is currently expected to be limited to ten students. Any member

of AIP and NAP currently possessing a credential from either (CP, CPP, RP, or PRP) is eligible to take the course. Those interested or those with questions are strongly encouraged to contact the Education Director at Education@AIP-parl.org as the course will be filled, first come, first served, from the resulting list of candidates.

Report of the AIP Education Director

Now that the 2019 Annual Session is over, many of us are studying the landscape to understand what we want to be doing next in our jobs. After interviewing some of my predecessors and reading old PJ articles by such luminaries as Robert English, Floyd Riddick, Robert Leiman, and Eugene Bierbaum, I

find it fascinating to see the huge contribution to AIP, its character, and its programs by professional and amateur educators. We owe a great deal to the stalwarts who have supported the Education Department in the past and look forward to working with them in the future.

A primary drive for the formation of our organization was education in parliamentary procedure of both the public and the practitioners and is a significant component of the AIP Action Program. It is my intent to continue and feed that drive during my time as your Education Director. For example, we have initiated a review of the educational materials in our inventory to identify gaps in our offerings. We will also be reviewing the

existing materials to see which need to be updated or modernized. We are working with our fellow board members to develop a strategy that will help us plan our educational workshops for future annual sessions and practicums. The idea is to arrive at a structure that offers a complete (a yet to be defined condition) educational program for our members and, increasingly, our customers.

It would be helpful to identify those educational professionals currently active in AIP as well as those with a commitment to excellence in education. Please send me a note at education@aipparl.org with your ideas and thoughts on how we can best fulfill our educational obligations to AIP and the public.

2020 West Coast Practicum

January 16-18, 2020, Alexis Park All Suite Resort, Las Vegas, Nevada

House Of Delegates, Conventions, and Annual Sessions

By Dollie McPartlin, CP-T, PRP, General Coordinator

The 39th Annual AIP West Coast Practicum scheduled for January 16-18, 2020, in Las Vegas will utilize both the American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure and Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised to fully explore everything you wanted to know about House of Delegates, Conventions and Annual Sessions. Does your House of Delegates wait until the following House of Delegates to approve the minutes? Should every member have the right to debate issues in the House? Should the delegates be able to suspend the rules of the House, if so, what rules can be suspended? If you are the delegate, can you give your credentials to the alternate delegate if you must leave early? How can the speaker of the house limit or extend debate on any issue? Can the speaker of the house change the printed agenda, if so, how? These questions and more will be explored. Curriculum Director Mary Remson, CPP-T, PRP plans to provide all attendees with a wonderful opportunity to grow in knowledge and confidence whether as a delegate, conference planner or presiding officer.

The Alexis Park All Suite Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada, will again be the venue for the 39th annual AIP West Coast Practicum. The hotel is conveniently located about one mile off the Las Vegas Strip and a little less than two miles from McCarran International Airport where a shuttle will take you to and from the airport. Room rates vary (six levels available) based on the suite level and the night of the week reserved. Rates range from \$59 - \$129 on Wednesday and Thursday nights to \$99 - \$189 plus tax on Friday and Saturday nights plus a resort fee of \$14 per night per room. Even with the resort fee, the room rate is reasonable. The resort fee includes free local phone calls from guest suites, open signal WiFi in the hotel public areas as well as guest suites, access to all recreational facilities, and hotel shuttle to and from the airport and mid Strip.

As always, this practicum will offer presiding sessions designed to assist attendees with the opportunity to improving their presiding skills many times over. AIP practicums always provide a safe environment to learn and practice parliamentary skills. Join us in Las Vegas!

Thank You For Your Contribution

Kay Crews, CPP

Michael Malamut, CPP-T K.

Ann McCartney

Dr. John Navins, CP

Marilyn K. Newman

Mike Prest

Rosemary Seghatoleslami

Teresa Stone, BSN RN CP-T PRP

Roger Wells

E. Marie Wilson, CPP-T

**AIP's generous members have made
contributions to the funds of their choice:**

Scholarship

Website

AIP Education Foundation

Unrestricted Donation

We invite you to consider making one or more of these funds the recipient of your generosity.

Make your donation online at

<https://aipparl.wildapricot.org/Donate>

or contact AIP Headquarters at 888-664-0428.

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2019 ANNUAL SESSION WRAP-UP

By Valoree Althoff, CP, PRP, AIP Communicator Editor

The AIP 2019 Annual Session was held at the Centennial Hotel in Spokane, Washington, July 25-27. The weekend included many special events including an ice cream social and carousel rides at the famous Looff Carrousel as well as watching the Spokane Indians minor league baseball team.

Thank you to all of the workshop presenters that donated their time and talent with educating our members: Robert Peskin, DDS; the Honorable Daniel Ivey-Soto, CP-T, PRP; C.J. Cavin, PRP; Ann McCartney, CP-T, PRP; Larry Cisar, CPP-T; Kevin Connelly, CP, PRP; Teresa Stone, CP-T, PRP; Paul McClintock, CP-T, PRP; Adam Hathaway, PRP; and Eli Mina, MS, CPP-T, PRP.



AIP 2019-2020 Board



Passing The Gavel

AIP bylaws amendments were considered. Bylaws amendment 1901 Board Composition was defeated. Amendment 1902 Education Department was adopted. Amendment 1903 AIP Logo was referred back to the Bylaws Committee and amendment 1904 AIP Credentials on Name Tags was adopted.

Congratulations to the newly elected AIP Board of Directors! Al Gage, CPP, PRP, PAP, President; Daniel Ivey-Soto, JD, CP-T, PRP, Vice President; Robert Peskin, DDS, Secretary; and C.J. Cavin, PRP, Treasurer. The newly elected Directors, Valoree Althoff, CP, PRP; Adam Hathaway, PRP; Helen McFadden, JD, PRP; and Nilda Rivera, Esq., PRP join the current Directors: Lucy Hicks Anderson, JD, PRP; Carolyn Hoxie; Atul

Kapur, MD, CP, PRP; and Clyde Waggoner, DMD, RP. The installation reception also included a presentation of the CP pin to the newest recipient, Valoree Althoff, CP, PRP. A special thank you to the AIP 2019 Coordinator Weldon Merritt, CPP, PRP for all of your time making this event so successful! We hope to see you in Charlotte, NC for the 2020 Annual Session!



Kay Allison Crews, CPP, PRP, making a donation to Mary Remson, CPP-T, PRP, since her phone made a noise during the meeting.



Kay Allison Crews, CPP, PRP and Marie Wilson, CPP-T, PRP presenting Valoree Althoff, CP, PRP with her CP pin

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

2019 ANNUAL SESSION WRAP-UP

JULY 25-27, 2019, THE CENTENNIAL HOTEL, SPOKANE, WA



ABOVE: Fun at Loeff Carrousel

BELOW: AIP members at the Spokane Indians minor league baseball game





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AIP has two separate ways we earn money from Amazon: through the **AmazonSmile** program and through items in the AIP bookstore at our website.

Items purchased through the bookstore pay us a higher rebate, but only if the item is actually listed in the bookstore. For that reason, some “gavel” items (*jewelry, clothes, and um, gavels*) are going into the AIP bookstore.

Put higher priced purchases and gifts into the AIP bookstore and purchase them through the bookstore for a higher donation to AIP. Anyone who would like to coordinate that type of activity need only contact President Al Gage for help!

This is “free money” for AIP, and anyone who supports these programs is also supporting our professional organization!!!