

June/July 2026

President's Corner

Welcome to Summer!

A big thank you to all who attended our annual convention in April. Meeting together in-person is an extra delight while electronic meetings are now frequently considered the norm. Yes, it does take a little extra effort to turn out for events in-person, however, I hope you will agree that our time together is such a joy! In this newsletter, you will find announcements for additional times and places to gather for parliamentary events in-person across the next year. Consider taking advantage of them.



Look for the 59th Convention wrap-up reports in this issue, and then plan to come to our next convention in the Spring of 2027.

Until our next convention in the spring – across the summer, fall, and winter – join the efforts of MSAP members as we educate communities on parliamentary procedure. We can be found in a wide variety of settings – academic, nonprofit, private corporations, and city, or county, or state governmental bodies.



During these days of remote communication, be sure to connect with your MSAP colleagues!

Thank you for being involved in all the parliamentary endeavors you undertake. The preservation of fair deliberation is critical at this juncture of our lives. Stay the course, and do not hesitate to contact me when your questions and comments arise.



Carrie Roach, RP
MSAP President



The Minnesota Parliamentarian

MSAP Convention Report

The 59th Annual Convention of the Minnesota State Association of Parliamentarians was held on Saturday, April 11, 2026, at the Cottage Grove VFW Post in Cottage Grove.

There were 15 voting members present from both the Northern Lights Parliamentarians unit, the St. Paul Unit, as well as members-at-large.

Newly elected officers include Carrie Roach, RP, president; Alice Chapman, vice-president (incumbent); and Dan Thomas-Commins, secretary (incumbent). Treasurer David Staehlin serves in the second year of his first term.



2026 MSAP Convention Attendees from left: Jan Strand, Larry Souther, Pat Reymann, Richard Skimland, Michael Orr, Gloria de Meireles, Jeanette Williams, Alice Chapman, Donna Mitchell, Kevin Dahlman, Lucy Johnson, David Staehlin, Miriam Simmons, Thomas Vaughn, Bob Williams, Chris Thorp (4/11/2026)



MSAP
2026-2027
President
Carrie Roach,
RP, and
2024-2026
President
Lucy Johnson,
PRP at the
Friday No
Host Dinner

A nominating committee for 2026-2027 was elected. Members include Larry Souther, David Staehlin, and Alice Chapman with Larry elected as chair. The goal of the committee is to nominate candidates for all four officer positions and three positions on the Nominating

Committee. It is never too early to start thinking of nominations. If you have a candidate in mind, or would like to nominate yourself, please contact anyone from the Nominating Committee.

NAP Secretary Donna Mitchell, PRP presented the educational program entitled "*Debate: Do you understand the rules of engagement?*" and gave an update on NAP. The NAP Commission on Credentialing awarded 1.5 CEUs to the credentialed MSAP members in attendance – Kevin Dahlman, PRP; Lucy Johnson, PRP; Miriam Simmons, PRP; and Jeanette Williams, PRP – along with three times that number to guest speaker Secretary Mitchell. Other business conducted was the approving of bylaw and standing rules amendments, the budget, and the Historian's report. Reports from the Units were provided.

Chris
Thorp
presents
Tellers'
Report.



The Minnesota Parliamentarian



SPU Members from left: David Staehlin, Pat Reymann, Gloria de Meireles, Alice Chapman, Lucy Johnson, Donna Mitchell, Jeanette Williams, Jan Strand, Miriam Simmons, Larry Souther



NLP Members from left: Kevin Dahlman, Richard Skimland, Michael Orr, David Staehlin, Miriam Simmons, Donna Mitchell, Chris Thorp



Members at Large from left:
Thomas Vaughn, Bob Williams

A very special thank you
to Bob Williams for taking
photographs!!!

**THANK
YOU!**

Members are encouraged
to go to <https://rw48395.smugmug.com/Groups/2026-MSAP>
and review the 2026 photographs.

The Minnesota Parliamentarian

MSAP 59th Annual Convention – April 11, 2026 – Financial Report

<u>Revenue</u>	Revenue	Expense	Financial Impact
Registration (15 @ \$15 each)	\$225.00		\$225.00
<u>Expenses</u>			
Food (breakfast and lunch)			
St. Paul Bagels (donated)		(\$0.00)	
Target (cream cheese, chips, drinks, paper prods)		(\$84.28)	
Hy-Vee (pastry, rills, water, condiments)		(\$69.91)	
Kowalski's (meat & cheese, fruit trays)		(\$206.79)	
NAP Representative Secretary		(\$253.80)	
Donna Mitchell, PRP			
Printing (at home and Kinko's)		(\$80.81)	
Registration reimbursement		(\$15.00)	(\$687.58)
Bob Williams, photographer			
Net Revenue/(Expense)			(\$462.58)

Submitted by Convention Chairman Alice Chapman

2026-27 MSAP Officers, Positions, and Committee Chairmen

Position	Name	Phone	Position	Name	Phone
MSAP Officers			Committee Chairmen		
President	Carrie Roach, RP	651.341.3454	Audit Committee	Darleen Harens, PRP	952.435.6910
Vice President	Alice Chapman	505.699.5216	Education Committee	Pat Reymann, PRP-R	612.849.0762
Secretary	Dan Thomas-Commins	651.402.7740	Judging & Education of Youth Committee	Darleen Harens, PRP	952.435.6910
Treasurer	David Staehlin	651.261.5802	Membership Committee	David Staehlin	651.261.5802
Immediate Past-President	Lucy Johnson, PRP	651.238.0494	Website Committee	David Staehlin, and Miriam Simmons, PRP	651.261.5802 651.212.0775
Positions			Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee	Richard Skimland Michael Orr, and Jeanette Williams, PRP	612.716.0134, 763.576.9743 507.252.9643
Parliamentarian	Pat Reymann, PRP-R	612.849.0762	Public Relations Committee	Briana Lee	413.204.5255
Historian	Jeanette Williams, PRP	507.252.9643			
Editor	Carrie Roach, RP	651.341.3454	MSAP Referral Coordinator	Miriam Simmons, PRP	651.212.0775
			NLP President	Dan Thomas-Commins	651.402.7740
			SPU President	Alice Chapman	505.699.5216

NOTE: The Parliamentarian position is an offboard position

The Minnesota Parliamentarian

MSAP – REPORT OF THE HISTORIAN – 2026

During the 2025–2026 term, MSAP members were led by President Lucy Johnson, PRP; Vice President Alice Chapman; Secretary Dan Thomas-Commins; and Treasurer David Staehlin. The officers were elected at the annual meeting held on April 12, 2025. During the annual meeting, eight delegates were elected to the 2025 NAP National Convention – Lucy Johnson, PRP, Alice Chapman, Dan Thomas-Commins, David Staehlin, Miriam Simmons PhD, PRP, Bob Williams, Kevin Dahlman, PRP, and Josh Martin, PRP.

MSAP Delegates to the 45th NAP National Biennial Convention held August 20-24, 2025 in Phoenix Arizona were Josh Martin and Bob Williams. Jeanette Williams, PRP, CP-T attended and served as a delegate as NAP Past-President.

Two new members joined—Sharon Luster Dykes, and Benjamin Zastrow.

MSAP members Jeanette Williams, Lucy Johnson, Miriam Simmons, and Gloria de Meireles attended the Dahms-Bierbaum Workshop held in Milwaukee, WI on October 17–19, 2025 titled, *Parliamentary Writing: The Pen behind the Gavel*.

The Annual MSAP Seminar was held Saturday, January 24, 2026, via Zoom titled *May I Take Your Order Please?* Presentations given by Education Committee Chairman Josh Martin, Miriam Simmons, Briana Rose Lee, and Carrie Roach, RP focused on the various ways the word “order” is used in Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised (12th ed.).

MSAP members supported the training and judging of youth. For the FFA national competition, held October 30–November 1, 2025, Kevin Dahlman coached the Dassel Cokato Conduct of Chapter Meetings team to the category of Silver. For the Business Professionals of America (BPA) regional competition, held January 23, 2026, Dan Thomas-Commins, and Gloria de Meireles served as judges. For the BPA state competition held March 6, 2026, Lucy Johnson, Kevin Wendt, PRP, and Dan Thomas-Commins served as judges. Darlene Harens, PRP sent medallions and a plaque to Stewartville, the winning team. Jan Strand, PRP-R, advised Stewartville. For the Family, Community and Career Leaders of America (MN FCCLA) state competition held March 27, 2026 Kevin Wendt, and Pat Reymann, PRP-R served as judges. Carrie Roach served as parliamentarian during the MN FCCLA Annual Business meeting held March 28, 2026.

MSAP member Miriam Simmons was elected the NAP District Five Director.

The month of May, 2025 brought the association two Silent Gavels – Beverly (Bev) Aplikowski and Medard Kaisershot. The family of MSAP Silent Gavel Medard B. Kaisershot donated materials on parliamentary procedure to the association.

The MSAP website, msap.us, holds the association’s information and is administered by Miriam Simmons and David Staehlin.

Throughout the year *The Minnesota Parliamentarian* was provided to members by Editor Carrie Roach and Carolyn Loeffler, Public Relations Committee Chairman, designed and distributed promotional material.

The 49th MSAP Convention was held April 11, 2026, at the Cottage Grove VFW Hall during which the elections of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a three member Nominating Committee took place. David Staehlin continued in the second year of his first term as Treasurer.

Submitted by MSAP Historian Carrie Roach
Approved by the MSAP Convention Delegates 4/11/26

The Minnesota Parliamentarian

YOUTH JUDGING

FCCLA (Family Community Career Leaders of America) held their state Parli-Pro competitions on April 15 at the Double Tree by Hilton in Bloomington. Kevin Wendt, PRP, and Pat Reymann, PRP-R, served as judges for this competition. There were 2 Junior High teams and 5 Senior High teams who participated. The first-place teams were from Ada-Borup-West High School and RTR (Russell Tyler Ruthon). First place plaques were sent to each of the schools, as well as medallions for each of the individual members of each team.

Thank you for all of our MSAP members who assisted in the youth judging whether at the regional level or the state level.

Youth Judging Chairman, Darleen A. Harens, PRP

+++++

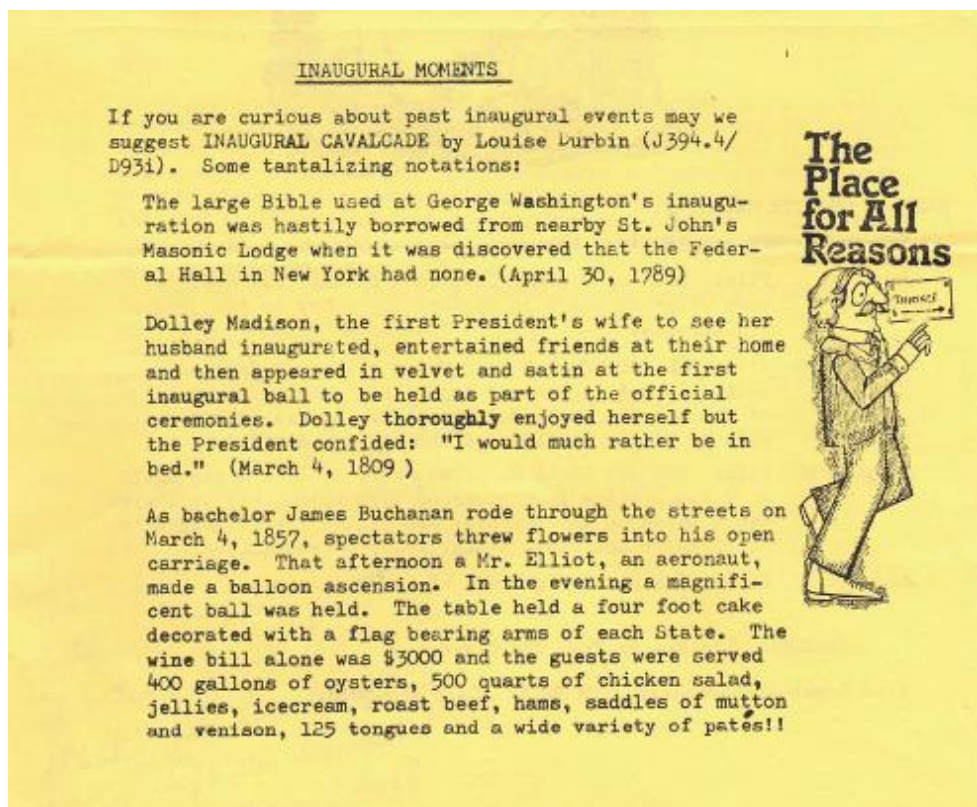
MSAP Standing Rule 3.3

The bylaws and standing rules committee shall review and make a recommendation on any proposed amendment to either the bylaws or the standing rules; notice of all proposed amendments shall be published in the call to the annual convention. Proposed amendments must be submitted to the committee by January 15. A current copy of the bylaws shall be sent to NAP headquarters on an annual basis

+++++

Please send any proposed amendments to the Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee before the due date of January 15, 2027 for consideration during the 60th annual MSAP Convention to Bylaws@msap.us

Richard Skimland, Chair
Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee



Submitted by Jeanette Williams

Visit our Minnesota State Association of Parliamentarians website: <https://MSAP.us>

The Minnesota Parliamentarian

St. Paul Unit

The St. Paul Unit (SPU) meets on the third Monday of the month (except February) at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom. A study session precedes the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

Officers include:

President Alice Chapman	(505) 699-5216
Vice President Carrie Roach, RP	(651) 341-3454
Secretary	(vacant)
Treasurer Jan Strand, PRP-R	(505) 603-0189

Through the hard work of the Education Committee, Gloria de Meireles and Jeanette Williams, the Education Program is being revamped. The Committee has arranged for outside speakers to give longer presentations on various motions during the meeting, and at times that are convenient for the presenters. At the June 15th meeting Frances Jackson spoke on the motion to Rescind or Amend Something Previously Adopted.

Guests are always welcome to attend our study sessions and our business meetings. Please contact President.SPU@MSAP.us for meeting links and further information.

Alice Chapman, President

Northern Lights Parliamentarians

The Northern Lights Parliamentarians unit continues to meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

New officers were elected at the May 12, 2026 annual meeting and are:

President Dan Thomas-Commins	(651) 402-7740
Vice President Richard Skimland	(612) 716-0134
Secretary Jason Cassady	
Treasurer David Staehlin	(651) 261-5802

The most recent educational session topics have been “What Do You Know?” by Darleen Harens, PRP; “Objection!” by Jason Cassady; and “Presiding with Emotional Intelligence” by Dan Thomas-Commins. Our July meeting will feature an educational session presented by Vice President Richard Skimland. We have been fortunate in recruiting some new members this year. Guests and visitors are always welcome. Please join us!

President.NLP@MSAP.us

Dan Thomas-Commins, President

MSAP MEMBERS (June 2026)

Beth Carlson
Alice Chapman
Patty Commerford
Jill Curry
Kevin Dahlman, PRP
Gloria de Meireles
Diane Doolittle
Sharon Dykes
Daron Gersch
Darleen Harens, PRP
Daniel Heins
Tim Held
Lucy Johnson, PRP
Sigrid Johnson
Art Johnston

Ann Kasel
Henry Koerner
Michael Landers
Briana Lee
Carolyn Loeffler
Joshua Martin, PRP
Brian Melendez
Fayneese Miller
Timothy Miller
Michael Orr, RP
Kathy Panek
Patricia Reymann, PRP-R
Carrie Roach, RP
Miriam Simmons, PRP
Richard Skimland

Larry Souther
David Staehlin
Janice Strand, PRP-R
Dan Thomas-Commins
Sandra Thompson
Chris Thorp
Judy Twisk
Thomas Vaughn
Kevin Wendt, PRP
Linda Westrom
Jeanette Williams, PRP
Keshuna Williams
Robert Williams
Linda Williams-Brettingen
Benjamin Zastrow

The Minnesota Parliamentarian

FUTURE EVENTS

NAP Leadership Conference

August 7-8, 2026

Zoom (\$50 – CEUs provided)

NAP National Training Conference

August 27-30, 2026

In-person | Birmingham, AL

(\$449 Member Early-bird FULL)

<https://www.parliamentarians.org/event/2026-nap-national-training-conference/>

Dahms-Bierbaum Workshop

November 6-8, 2026

Hyatt Place Oklahoma City/Bricktown (\$\$\$)

MSAP BoD Meeting

November 19, 2026

Zoom

MSAP BoD Meeting

January 21, 2027

Zoom

MSAP BoD Meeting

March 11, 2027

Zoom



SUBMISSION DEADLINE for the OCT/NOV 2026 Issue of

The Minnesota Parliamentarian is
Thursday, November 19, 2026

Please submit to Carrie Roach at

Editor@MSAP.us Photos are always
welcome.



[Register HERE](#)

The NTC is an essential opportunity for members to enhance their understanding of aspects of parliamentary procedure. Workshops will be led by parliamentarians who have demonstrated a mastery of their chosen topics. It will all take place in Birmingham, AL, August 27-30.

NAP Hotel Discount Rates: [Exclusive member hotel rate link](#)

The Minnesota Parliamentarian



Dahms-Bierbaum Annual Workshop

"Who Counts: Quorum Quandaries
and Voting Thresholds"

Visit www.DahmsFoundation.org
for Updates and Additional Information

SAVE THE DATE

- ✓ November 6-8, 2026
- ✓ Registration Opens July 1, 2026
- ✓ Student Scholarships Available

HYATT PLACE OKLAHOMA CITY / BRICKTOWN

- ✓ (405) 702-4028
- ✓ \$117 per Night (+ Taxes/Fees) * Breakfast Included
- ✓ www.HyattSite.com

Sign Up [Here](#) to Receive Our Announcements



Ramona Hill, PRP

Instructor



Alison Wallis, PRP, CP-T

Director

Curriculum



Gregory Carlson, PRP

Instructor

Editor's Note: the MSAP Standing Rules stipulate that the June/July issue of *The Minnesota Parliamentarian* shall include the MSAP *Bylaws & Standing Rules*. Rather than including these documents *within* the newsletter (which would make the newsletter inordinately long), they are attached to the email sent with this newsletter.