

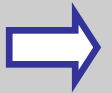


July 2022
Volume 1, Issue 2

A quarterly newsletter of the [New York Association of Parliamentarians](http://www.nyap.org) to keep you connected and informed.

The New York Parliamentary Report

Look Inside for Updates



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PERSUASIVE BOOK CLUB

In June 2022, we concluded the last in a series of workshops for our inaugural book club, the [NYAP PERSUASIVE BOOK CLUB](#).

Our presenter, Nilda E. Rivera, PRP, CP, President of the Parliamentarians of Metro New York, provided participants with an overview of “*Cannon’s Concise Guide to Rules of Order*”.

During the 3 sessions Ms. Rivera discussed real life parliamentary scenarios when comparing the differences and similarities between *Cannon’s Concise Guide to Rules of Order*’s and RONR. For example she pointed out the many ways that Cannon’s discusses *strategies* presiding officers can use to handle various situations. Finally, at the end of each session there was a Q & A.

Cannon’s Rules of Order is definitely a must read for parliamentarians and aspiring parliamentarians.

**Introducing the NYAP
“PERSUASIVE BOOK CLUB”**

The goal of the NYAP “Persuasive Book Club” will be to read authoritative parliamentary books in comparison to the latest published edition of RONR (how are the books similar, how are they different). Our first book will be *Cannon’s Concise Guide to Rules of Order*. PMNY President Nilda Rivera will serve as the facilitator for our discussion. Participants who attend all sessions in a set will receive CEU’s and a certificate of completion from the association.

Participants will need to pre register and will be encouraged to pre-read and submit questions prior or during the workshop lectures.

Dates and times
Thursday - April 28 (7 - 8pm EDT) - Part I & II
Thursday - May 26 (7 - 8pm EDT) - Part III
Thursday - June 30 (7 - 8 pm EDT) - Comparison to RONR

The format will be lecture style (for 35 - 40 minutes) with Q&A/discussion for the balance of the hour. “We hope you will join our book club discussion”.

[To register: https://bit.ly/nyap/Persuasive-Book-Club](https://bit.ly/nyap/Persuasive-Book-Club)



Structure of NYAP

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mlhenderson2015@gmail.com

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Message From the President

Greetings New York Association of Parliamentarians,

Welcome to the latest edition of our quarterly association newsletter, *The New York Parliamentary Report*. The inaugural edition of our newsletter was enjoyed by many within the association and also shared with colleagues and friends across the country. Thank you to those who took time to read and share feedback. A special thanks to NYAP Secretary Donna Delfyett-White, RP, her committee, and all contributors for their outstanding efforts and contributions.

The object of the New York Association of Parliamentarians shall be to promote the study of parliamentary procedure and educational programs of the National Association of Parliamentarians. Throughout this edition are many examples of our object in action. These examples highlight the unique value parliamentarians can offer while assisting organizations with the goal of making deliberations more effective.

As you consider parliamentary training in the coming months remember to be intentional of your own development. While the fundamental principles underlying rules of order remain, the way those principles are sometimes applied are changing. Your personal study to understand changes to the way members interact is necessary to help protect the rights of all in deliberations.

On behalf of the entire New York Association of Parliamentarians Board of Directors I express continued gratitude to you in recognition of all that you do to support your organizations and each other. Enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,

Adrian Stratton, MBA, PRP, CP

President

New York Association of Parliamentarians

president@newyorkap.org | nyparliamentarians.org

Would you like to help NYAP grow by working on or chairing a committee? If so, email your interest to: secretary@newyorkap.org

Did You Know?

NYAP's membership consist of the following *primary association* of members:

Members at Large (MAL)	132
Members affiliated with Units	220



NYAP's membership consist of the following *types* of members:

Membership Types	Number of Members
Regular Members	221
Regular Members—Students	4
Registered Parliamentarians	97
Register Parliamentarians—Students	1
Registered Parliamentarians—Retired	1
Professional Parliamentarians	26
Professional Parliamentarians—Retired	2

INTERVIEW WITH A PROFESSIONAL PARLIAMENTARIAN

Daniel Seabold, Ph.D., PRP



Biographical Questions

Q. As a kid, what were you like?

A. **Relatively quiet and well-behaved. I had plenty of friends at school, in the neighborhood, and at church. I played baseball and soccer, read a good bit, and spent a lot of time in the woods.**

Q. When your friends/family find out that you are a professional parliamentarian what do they say or ask?

A. **Occasionally a colleague at the university where I work will discover my involvement with RONR. They are often (happily) surprised and ask how I got involved with it. I also get a fair number of questions from colleagues about procedure.**

Q. How would (someone) describe you?

A. **I shudder to think.**

Q. What might (someone) be surprised to know about you?

A. **That I am the Acting Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Hofstra University.**

Q. What do you do when you aren't involved with Parliamentary Procedure?

A. **I have a daughter and two sons. If you had asked me this question a few years ago, I would have said that I spent most of my free time driving them to and from dance and karate lessons and soccer practice. But they are getting older now and have started to disperse into the world. My dog Sadie has taken up some of that time. I still read a fair amount, though much less than I did a decade ago, when I was working through the classics from Homer and Herodotus to Milton. Also, I waste a lot of time on genealogy.**

Parliamentary life

Q. Tell me how you first got involved in with Parliamentary procedure?

A. **I was elected(!) to serve as parliamentarian to the faculty at Hofstra University, a post for which I was about as well-qualified as Henry Robert was to preside over the infamous 1863 meeting related to the defense of New Bedford from Confederate attack. Like Mr. Robert, I decided that I had some learning to do.**

Q. What has surprised you most about working with other Parliamentarians?

A. **How seriously they take parliamentary procedure.**

Q. What would you tell someone who is thinking about becoming a RP / PRP?

A. **If you are a bookish sort, but also somewhat civically-engaged, parliamentary procedure is a great hobby that can do good both for yourself and for others.**

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INTERVIEW WITH A PROFESSIONAL PARLIAMENTARIAN

Parliamentary life

- Q. What (if any) specific advice or recommendations does he have for youth parliamentarians?
- A. **Keep up on your training. Many kids take up hobbies that they abandon in later life, but a knowledge of parliamentary procedure can certainly be a lifetime pursuit. Fly-fishing is another option.**
- Q. The interest in RONR seems to be growing. Why do you think that is?
- A. **I hadn't noticed that interest was growing. That's good news, if true. I think that one of the greatest threats to parliamentary procedure is the tendency of boards to take control of organizations from members who lack a basic knowledge of procedure. I still like the idea of equals gathered together in a room—not as appointed leaders, but as ordinary members—choosing a course of action after mutual debate.**
- Q. What do you wish other people knew about Parliamentary Procedure?
- A. **That its purpose is to make meetings run fairly and efficiently, not to impede business with fussy rules nor to confer tactical advantage on the cognoscenti.**
- Q. What would you say are some of your strongest beliefs about Parliamentary Procedure?
- A. **An old story circulates that Wolfgang Pauli, a theoretical physicist, was challenged during lecture for claiming that something was obvious. "I'm sorry professor," a student insisted, "but I don't think that is obvious at all." Pauli stared at the board, stared at the student, and paced the room a bit. He then went to his office where he sat, deep in thought, for half an hour. He then returned to class, saying "No, it's definitely obvious."**
- That is exactly how I feel about most of parliamentary procedure.**
- Q. If you could change one thing about Parliamentary Procedure, what would it be?
- A. **I think it's (obviously) perfect just the way it is.**
- Q. What do you think will change about parliamentary procedure over the next five years?
- A. **Even after the pandemic recedes, I expect to see a permanent increase in the number of meetings conducted online. When authorized by the bylaws, something very like a traditional meeting can be conducted via Zoom for a dozen people. But it's not clear that most convention-scale electronic meetings can even be considered meetings of a deliberative assembly. The next time you are in an online meeting, ask yourself this question: If I observe a breach of the rules, can I call the attention of the members and the chair to it without first getting someone's permission to speak?**
- Q. As a parliamentarian what is the most challenging responsibility / job you have ever taken?
- A. **Editing RONR. And there isn't a close second.**

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INTERVIEW WITH A PROFESSIONAL PARLIAMENTARIAN

Specific to RONR

Q. How did you get involved with editing RONR?

A. **In 2006, I was asked to speak at the “Advanced Seminar” organized by the Robert’s Rules Association. After I spoke, Dan Honemann invited me to interview at his law offices for a position on the authorship team.**

Q. What is your favorite - and least favorite - motion and why?

A. **My favorite is the motion to create a proviso and my least favorite is probably the motion to go into quasi-committee of the whole.**

Q. What do you find most challenging about UPDATING RONR 12th edition?

A. **Sitting in a room for eight hours, debating, amending, and voting on complex proposals is actually quite grueling.**

Q. Does the responsibility come with a lot of pressure due to the notoriety of RONR?

A. **Like the doctors say, “First, do no harm”. Knowing that the book has worked fine for millions of people for many years just as it is, that any particular change may cause inadvertent harm, and that any unwise edits will remain in place for ten years is a lot of pressure.**

Q. Tell me about someone who has influenced your decision to work on updating RONR?

A. **They asked, and I said yes. There was never any hesitancy on my part to accept the position. It’s an honor.**

Q. What’s the best/worst thing to happen since you started working with RONR?

A. **The best thing has undoubtedly been to meet and work closely with Henry, Dan, Burke, and Shmuel. The worst is being unable to go to the grocery store without being mobbed by parliamentary groups and paparazzi.**

Dr. Seabold is a professional parliamentarian and copyeditor. He received his B.A. in Mathematics and Biology from McDaniel College and his Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of California, Berkeley. He is a proud member of The Parliamentarians of Greater NY.



OUR UNITS

Members at Large (MAL's) would you like to belong to a unit in your area? Then reach out to one of the units below to inquire how you can join them. Some of the benefits for joining a unit are:

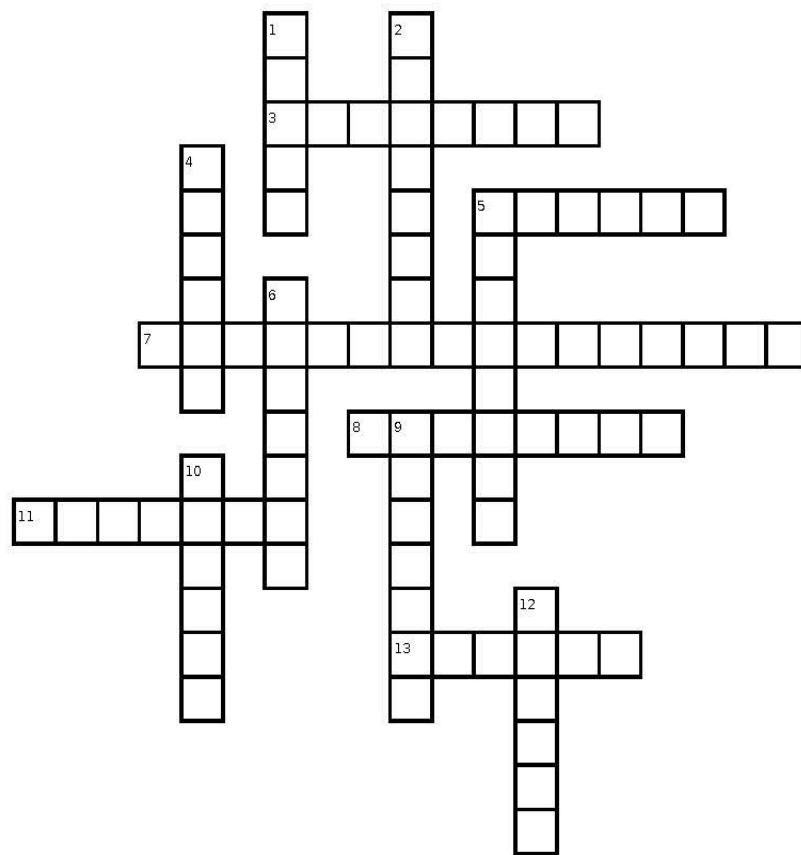
- Meet other parliamentarians in your area.
- Regular professional development opportunities to further your parliamentary knowledge.
- Opportunity to teach others about parliamentary procedure.
- Practice in applying parliamentary procedure.

To reach out to a local unit click on the hyperlink next to the units name.

For more information reach out to vicepresident@newyorkap.org.

UNIT NAMES	NYAP	Website
Buffalo-Niagara Parliamentarians of Western NY	BNNY	https://www.facebook.com/Buffalo-Niagara-Parliamentarians-of-Western-New-York-230765170962460/
Gotham Parliamentarians of NY	GPNY	https://www.facebook.com/GothamParliamentarians/
Lee Demeter Registered Parliamentarians Unit	LDRP	Contact Secretary@newyorkap.org
Parliamentarians of Albany, NY	PANY	Contact Secretary@newyorkap.org
Parliamentarians of Brooklyn NY	PBNY	http://www.parliamentariansofbrooklyn.org/
Parliamentarians of Greater NY	PGNY	https://allevents.in/org/parliamentarians-of-greater-new-york/19108318
Parliamentarians of Metro NY	PMNY	https://www.parliprosmny.org/
Parliamentarians of Nassau-Suffolk Counties NY	PNSC	https://nypnsc.org/
Parliamentarians of Queens, NY	PQNY	https://pqnyc.org/
Parliamentarians of Westchester NY	PWNY	https://www.facebook.com/Parliamentarians-of-Westchester-New-York-100124795085643

NYAP PARLIMENTARY TERMS CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Down:

1. the position held by the meeting's leader
2. a motion that is under discussion with a vote to be taken on it
4. an acknowledgement by a second member that a motion should come before the assembly
5. intending to thwart the will of the assembly by misusing parliamentary motions
6. official record of a meeting
9. to close a meeting
10. a slip of paper on which a voter's preference is written
12. persons appointed to receive and count ballots or other votes

Across:

3. a deliberative body
5. formal discussions of the pros and cons of motions
7. a secondary motion that deals with questions of procedure
8. more than half
11. relevant to a subject under consideration
13. a short break in the proceedings of a meeting

See October 2022 issue for the answers

3rd Quarter 2022

CALENDAR

DATE	MONTH	EVENT
26-27	AUGUST	Learn everything you need to know about being an association or unit leader in NAP but didn't know who - or what - to ask.
		Register through the NAP Bookstore
8-11	SEPTEMBER	Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town, 800 Rio Grande Blvd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104, USA (map)
		Soar to new heights as a parliamentarian. Attend the 2022 NAP Training Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, September 8-11. Learn from the experts, broaden your perspective, and enjoy the cultural capital of the Southwest. Learn more and register at . www.napconference.org

For more opportunities to increase your knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order please check the NAP website. Click the link below to see the latest events

[NAP CALENDAR](#)
[NYAP UNIT MEETINGS AND
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CALENDAR](#)

To add your unit's meetings and events please email NYAP secretary, Donna Delfyett-White at secretary@newyorkap.org