



Robert Said What?

November, 2020



Teaching Ourselves to Sewe the Community

From the desk of

Joyce Gleason RP

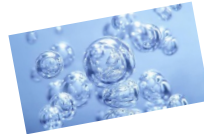
Teaching Ourselves to Serve the Community -- This theme has never been truer than during this Covid-19 period! We are learning all sorts of new tools and methods to communicate.

Our Zoom-based meeting (Thank you, Louis, for sharing your account). on September 10th drew members that might not have otherwise attended -- due to distance (Dona in Ohio and Justin in Wauchula), inability to meeting in public for health reasons (Libby and Christine), and even long-loyal members (Dr. Randy). It felt like a party and I personally considered it a treat. Thank you to **Vice-president Louis Rivera** for chairing that session while I remained on Cape Cod. He did double duty, managing the Zoom interface while conducting the day's business.

So what lessons can we take from this experience? In its wisdom, the assembly voted to purchase a Zoom account for CCPU. While not yet decided, we may use that medium again for our November 12th meeting. But how else can we adjust? If the FOP Hall remains unavailable to us or if there is still hesitancy to meet in groups, our teachers for "The Practical Applications of Robert's Rules of Order" course could present their lessons via Zoom, adapting PowerPoint presentations to "screen sharing". And imagine how "The Art of Presiding" class will look in this new age of social distancing! We will find out about all of this during the coming winter, I presume.

This month I adapted by convening sequential Special Meetings held outdoors in Sam King's yard! I had never conducted a special meeting before but it was necessary. The yard part was certainly a first for us! Ah, yes, more to adjust to but something we can manage. And we are doing this together: teaching ourselves and each other. That is the purpose of CCPU, isn't it?

Educational Lessons following our November 12 meeting.



Let the Ideas Bubble Up

At the end of our CCPU General meeting in September, as we were signing off, Dr. Moody said the business conducted at this meeting was not valid. I signed off and went about my day. As I was trying to go to sleep that night, his statement came to me. I got out of bed and went to my records and re-viewed our bylaws. There was nothing about electronic meetings!

As a member of the Bylaws Committee, I started to do some research on electronic meetings. With help from Sam King, I started putting together ideas on wording of an amendment for electronic meetings.

Our Bylaws Committee stopped what we were currently working on and put this on the front burner. We wrote the amendment and a new standing rule. But that was just the beginning. I then knew that we needed to come up with a way to present these to our members. We would need two special meetings. The first to pass an amendment and bylaw on electronic meetings and a second to ratify the business from our September meeting. But where? Sam offered her front yard, with social distancing, each bringing a mask and a chair. Monday, October 19 the meeting took place.

Sometimes, you need to relax, clear your mind, and let ideas bubble up.

Libby Curnow, *editor*

Time for Dues \$\$\$

Yes! It is that time again. Another year has quickly passed by and it is time for dues to be paid to Sam King, CCPU's Treasurer.



If you are a member of NAP and pay the National and State dues by sending your check to NAP – the Unit dues are \$10. If you are not paying dues to NAP and are a provisional member – the State dues are \$25 and the Unit dues are \$10 – please pay \$35 to CCPU. All checks should be written out to Charlotte County Parliamentarians Unit (CCPU) and mailed to: Stephanie King, PRP, PO Box 495482 Port Char-lotte, FL 33949-5482



Newcomer's Perspective

Please allow me to introduce myself.

My name is Judi Beaumont and, at the invitation of Libby Curnow, I attended the September virtual meeting of the Charlotte County Parliamentarians Unit of Florida ("CCPU"). At the end of that meeting, Libby asked me if I would write a short article about how I became interested in CCPU and what my expectations might be should I become part of the organization.

Earlier this year, I agreed to fill a vacancy in the Punta Gorda Garden Club ("PGGC") Parliamentarian role. I accepted the position because I thought it would be interesting to learn more about parliamentary procedure as an intellectual exercise; and also because the co-president of PGGC assured me that Libby had agreed to be my mentor in the process. With respect to the intellectual aspect of the process, in my professional life I had dealt with various rules of procedure every day, so I thought, how hard can it be? Well, that thought lasted only until I received a copy of the *Robert's Rules of Order* (11th ed.) from PGGC that consisted of 643 pages, without charts, tables and lists!

Libby has provided me with the *Robert's Rules of Order* (12th ed.), as well as the NAP Membership Study Guide and Practice Questions. At this point, I have started working through the Practice Questions as I read through the *Robert's Rules of Order In Brief*. My observation during the September meeting is that the CCPU group consists of very knowledgeable and competent people who could be terrific educational resources during my learning journey.

Judi Beaumont.



To learn more about using the Zoom platform, please follow the link below. There are also many instructional videos on zoom.com.

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-How-Do-I-Join-A-Meeting>



January Newsletter

Deadline

December 18, 2020

Two Special Meetings of CCPU



On Monday October 19, CCPU held two special meetings. If you were not there, this is the outcome of those meetings:

The first meeting was to amend Article V of our by-laws. Article V Section 3 "Electronic meetings may be called for any CCPU meeting for the purpose of conducting CCPU business and training. Electronic meetings may be called by the president or any two members. A one week notice shall be given to each member. Written notice, prepared by the secretary, mailed or e-mailed to the current address provided by each member of the CCPU, shall satisfy the notice requirement of this section". This was adopted.

A new standing rule reads; "The secretary shall provide information on the following to members in the call to the electronic meeting: login information, login time, signing in and out, quorum calls, forced disconnections, assignment of the floor, interrupting a member, submitting motions in writing, display of motions, voting, and video display". This was also adopted.

Our second special meeting was ratification of any business that was conducted at our September 10, 2020 General Meeting. This was also adopted.

Our hostess was Sam King, and we thank her for the use of her front yard. Some of us were unable to attend the meeting, we were concerned that Sam might ask us to do some yard work.

Libby Curnow, *Bylaw Committee Member*

Next Meeting, November 12, 2020

9:30AM—11:30AM

Location and method TBD

Email—

btrules@gmail.com



Website—robertrules.org



2019-2021 Officers

President—Joyce Gleason—joyglee16@gmail.com
Vice President—Louis Rivera—liinspect@gmail.com
Secretary—Barbara Davis—babsdavis@comcast.net
Treasurer—Sam King—gammanuking@gmail.com