

AHEPA, Yankee District 7
Spring 2010 Conference
AHEPA 110 Apartments, Norwich, CT
April 17, 2010

The joint AHEPA/Daughters of Penelope meeting opened at 10:15 a.m.

Governor Nick Nikas went over the changes in the agenda and welcomed past District Governors in the audience.

Daughters of Penelope Governor Donna Rados welcomed everyone and recognized Past Daughters of Penelope District Governors in the audience. She went over the plans for a scholarship dinner to be held in Waterbury. More details will be forthcoming. She spoke of a "Greek Night" in New Britain on August 3rd at Rock Cats Baseball Stadium. This will be a fundraiser for the Daughters, costing \$8.00/person and it will hopefully have a great turnout. A report on the scholarships was given by Past District Governor Joanne Hologgitas. She said that, at most recent count, there were twelve (12) applications.

Brother Mathews gave a report on the CT campaign for the Patriarchate. He went over the historic Greek presence in Turkey. According to Brother Mathews there are five (5) important factors facing the Patriarchate and described each of them. He mentioned that some thirty-five (35) states have already passed initiatives regarding the state of the Orthodox Church in Turkey.

Governor Nikas went over the proposed Hellenic History Tournament (HHT) to be held in Orange, CT in the fall. He said that Supreme President Nicholas Karacostas had addressed the students at the last contest. A short but effective video had also been made of the last contest. On January 30th, a meeting was held with representatives from most of the chapters during which plans for the next HHT were proposed and voted on.

Brother Theologos (Lakis) Demetriades, President of the Norwalk Chapter, distributed information and literature regarding the upcoming District Convention to be held May 22nd.

At 10:50 a.m. the meeting separated into venues for the AHEPA and the Daughters of Penelope.

Governor Nick Nikas went over the pertinent numbers regarding the HHT. He mentioned that 2009 the student and chapter funding was short of the necessary amount by \$1,370.00 Contributions from individuals came to \$5,035.00 with 41% of that amount from sources in Stamford. Governor Nikas said that, for this year's contest, the cost must be paid without fundraising. The budget for the contest was described with the biggest change being that the charge for sponsorship of students will fluctuate according to the number of participants. At the January 30th meeting it was voted that the prizes would be \$4,500 with no third prize given this year. The registration fee will be \$25.00 and the venue will be at St. Barbara Church in Orange. 8th graders will now be able to register. All of the 2009 participants including the winners are eligible to enter the contest again. The basic structure of the contest including the number of minutes allowed and the number of questions will remain the same. Governor Nikas was commended by delegates at the conference for his vision in setting up and executing the HHT contest in 2009.

Supreme Vice President John Grossomanides, Jr. gave the National Perspective for AHEPA. The national membership went from 15,373 in 2008 to 16,005 members in 2009. When you measure the % of retention, District 7 was the best in the country with retention of 98.3%. District 5 (New Jersey and Delaware) had the largest percent of increase with 18%; District 7 (Connecticut and Rhode Island) had a 13% increase. As far as new initiates, Stamford and Norwich had the most. The largest

chapter in the country was Denver with 303 members.

Brother Grossomanides described the biennial banquets being held around the country, with the one in Florida coming up on September 25. October 31 will be the 2,500 anniversary of The Marathon race. 300 slots are available for Ahepans; 45 are presently filled. This could be used as a fundraiser with so much pledged- per-mile. Sign-ups must be completed by May 15th.

Also, the New York Parade takes place on April 18th at 1:00 p.m.; Reinstatement fees are waived for this year; The District Convention will be held on Norwalk this May.

Yankee News Report: Brother Grossomanides thanked those who have sponsored the issues. The cost of each issue is \$1,600.00 for 800 copies, with \$200.00 for postage. \$6.00/member is assessed for Yankee News. May 1st is the deadline for the next issue. Brother Grossomanides asked the members if anyone was interested in being the next editor at some point in the future.

Actions for the rest of the year: Increase our Membership. The objective is to have at least one more member for each chapter. The chapters were asked to nominate a *Chapter of the Year*, *Ahepan of the Year* and *Hellene of the Year*. This must be done by May 8th. Convention ads were requested: \$100/page, \$60/½ page, \$40/¼ page and \$25/business card size. Also, Brother George Anagnostos from Newport will arrange for a discussion on Elderly Housing at the Convention.

How to increase membership:

Norwalk: Brother Lakis Demetriades said that for 10 years there were no meetings. In 2009 there were seven (7) members; there are now fourteen (14). AHEPA is going to pay for coffee & dessert on AHEPA day.

New Haven: Brother George Scarveles said plans are continuing for May 16th. The priest reads the names of deceased Ahepans. Every table will have an application and the history of the AHEPA. If you fill out an application at the door you get two free lunches. It was suggested that chapters work on reinstatements.

Hartford: Brother Emmanuel Moshovos said that they send invitations to prospective new members to attend an open house with refreshments, speeches, and the “Ripples” video.

New London: Brother Demetrius Tasoulas said that there are 48 active members. They have sponsored social events and coffee hours.

Stamford: Brother Arthur Kiratsous spoke about the increase in presentations (4 for the year). They have planned for speakers and movies. The El Greco film will be shown on April 23rd. Activities are divided between the two churches in Stamford. Free pizza is provided. A musical presentation will also be done. Stamford hopes to get between 100-200 people. He spoke about the need to fight for Hellenic values.

Danielson: Brother Michael Leotsakos spoke of two new members. The scholarship went from \$200 to \$500 with eight (8) scholarships being given this year.

The meeting concluded at 1:15 p.m. and everyone adjourned for lunch.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jack Isaac
District 7 Secretary

Conference Attendees

Chapter	Attendee
48 Waterbury, CT	Alex Boutsioulis
58 Hartford, CT	Emmanuel Moshovos John Melonopoulos
62 Bridgeport, CT	John Bochanis Alex Vlantes
90 Danbury, CT	Kip Kyprianou, PDG
98 New Haven, CT	George Scarveles
99 Stamford, CT	Arthur Kiratsous JamesW Cocolis JamesJ Cocolis Nikiforos Mathews Nicholas Nikas
106 Providence, RI	-
110 Norwich, CT	George Grossomanides John Grossomanides, PDG, SS JohnG Grossomanides, PDG Sotero Daniska Tony Petros Joseph Hominski George Maistrelis
117 New Britain, CT	Jack Isaac Angelo Moutogianis
126 Meriden, CT	-
245 Newport, RI	George Anagnostos Steve Jennings, PDG
250 New London, CT	Demetrius Tasoulas Greg Simones
387 Norwalk, CT	Theologos Demetriades Avraam Apazidis
418 Danielson, CT	Michael Leotsakos James Balis

Summary by Chapter

Chapter	City	Attendees
48	Waterbury	1
58	Hartford	2
62	Bridgeport	2
90	Danbury	1
98	New Haven	1
99	Stamford	5
106	Providence	0
110	Norwich	7
117	New Britain	2
126	Meriden	0
245	Newport	2
250	New London	2
387	Norwalk	2
418	Danielson	2