

AHEPA New England Regional Convention

May 20, 21, 2011
Mainstay Inn, Newport, RI

The Meeting of District 7 opened at 10:50 a.m.

George Scarveles was selected as chairman of the convention and Jack Isaac was selected as secretary.

Bro. George Rados suggested that, in lieu of breaking into committees we hold an open session. This was supported by the members.

Chapters and Delegates

Chapter	Delegate	Row Labels	Count of Chapters	Count of Delegates
048 Waterbury	Alex Boutsoulis	048 Waterbury	1	3
048 Waterbury	Manolis Sfinarolakis	058 Hartford	1	2
048 Waterbury	Paul Velezis	090 Danbury	1	1
058 Hartford	John Melonopoulos	098 New Haven	1	1
058 Hartford	Emmanuel Moshovos	099 Stamford	1	2
090 Danbury	Kip Kyprianou	110 Norwich	1	4
098 New Haven	George Scarveles	117 New Britain	1	2
099 Stamford	James Cocolis	245 Newport	1	6
099 Stamford	Nicholas Nikas	Grand Total	8	21
110 Norwich	John Grossomanides			
110 Norwich	JohnG Grossomanides			
110 Norwich	Anthony Neigel			
110 Norwich	Ernie Pool			
117 New Britain	Jack Isaac			
117 New Britain	George Rados			
245 Newport	George Anagnostos			
245 Newport	Fr.George Economou			
245 Newport	Jim Georgiou			
245 Newport	Steve Jennings			
245 Newport	George Koulouvardis			
245 Newport	Michael Sisak			

Chapter Reports: 8 of 14 chapters were represented.

Waterbury: Bro. Paul Velezis reported. He spoke of the dinner meetings they hold each month. These are usually a formal meeting with a dinner and 28-35 members usually attend. Money remaining after dinner goes

to scholarships. 3 dinners a year are open to the public, with an average of 160 people per dinner. Proceeds go to scholarships. The chapter is planning for a baseball game at the end of August. The Sons of Pericles have recently held a dinner and set up a Hall of Fame in the parish.

Hartford: Bro. John Melanopoulos reported that Hartford had a series of speakers come to the chapter. They held their annual Christmas party where they had a choral group perform. The chapter provides meals during meetings. The regular meetings are formal and ritualistic. They had a cash raffle in December. They do an electronic newsletter each month. A scholarship fund is available and they are a major contributor to the church. They will shortly hold an awards night with some 45 awards given and it is expected that some 80 or 90 people will attend. The recent election resulted in the same officers being elected.

Stamford: Bro. Nick Nikas reported that they are trying to increase membership. They recently had a fundraising dance. The proceeds go to two Greek schools in Stamford. They showed 1 film over the winter. Next Fall they anticipate having a couple of lecturers. The chapter presently has about 85 members. The winners of the Hellenic History Trophy (HHT) Contest were accepted into the AHEPA Academy.

Norwich: Bro. Ernie Poole reported that the chapter has grown to 113 members, making it the largest chapter in the district. They are now getting 3rd and 4th generations, Pan-Hellenes and friends. 85% of the eligible males are now Ahepans. They held a picnic with some 70-75 attending. They have guest speakers sporadically, hold semi-ritualistic meetings with pot-luck meals, and are heavily involved financially with the church. They gave \$2,000 towards roof repair and are involved with the HHT contest. They sponsor coffee hour and a dinner on AHEPA Sunday. A chapter newsletter goes out to members. A group from the chapter will attend a local theater.

New Britain: Bro. George Rados reported that their membership drive has stalled. Andy Aros handles the successful scholarship committee. New Britain is involved with Central CT State University (CCSU), Trinity on Main and Central CT Association of Retarded Citizens (CCARC). They provide books to libraries and sponsor lectures. They are active in donating to the mayor's charity fund. The chapter provides Christmas toys to needy children, give food to the Friendship Center, participate in the NYC Hellenic parade, will sponsor a team for the HHT, and have participated in two student-based trips to Greece with CCSU.

New Haven: Bro. George Scarveles reported that they hosted the national banquet and that it was a tremendous success. Membership is improving. They will host the HHT contest again this year on October 29th. Lifetime members will be honored after the contest. The chapter is a large contributor to St. Barbara's.

Host City Report- Newport: Bro. Mike Sisak reported that they held a dance with 300-400 people, dance troupes from each chapter in Rhode Island entertaining every 20 minutes. They have a new initiative called Friends of the Family where money is offered to help send a child to Greece. They have raised funds for the University of Rhode Island (URI) with some \$20,000-25,000 already raised. They sponsor movies and seminars. He mentioned that the present priest is a strong supporter of the AHEPA.

Item to be voted on: A proposed change to the by-laws was proposed at an earlier conference. Section 3, Paragraph 17 currently reads: "Any changes or amendments to the District By-Laws should be presented to the Legislative Committee of the current year's Convention for recommended and voted on at the next year's Convention, after being properly circulated throughout the District and its chapters."

The proposed change reads: "Any changes or amendments to the District By-Laws should be presented to the District Governor and to all chapter secretaries and presidents at least 90 days prior to the convention for consideration and voting. If a proposed amendments affects another AHEPA family organization then the District Governor, chapter presidents and secretaries of that organization must also be notified in writing at

least 90 days prior to the convention for that organization's consideration and vote."

The amendment was unanimously adopted.

Report on the HHT Contest: Nick Nikas reported that the chapter had met in February and they voted to support a third HHT Contest. The rules are similar to previous contests. The costs of sponsorships have gone down. \$506.00 if you sponsor two teams with 16 teams to be the goal. June 30 is the deadline for applying. October 29 is the date of the competition.

Remarks were heard from visiting dignitaries Andrew Zachariadis- Supreme Governor of Region 3, and Col. Nick Vamvakias- Supreme Treasurer: Bro. Andrew said he came to return the visit of Gov. Moshovos and Lt. Gov. Jack Isaac when they attended the District Meeting in New York. He spoke about the situation at Ground Zero and the progress of the planning to rebuild St. Nicholas. They are currently building the platform on which the Church will stand. The new church will be approximately 7,000 square feet. The AHEPA in New York has filed for a permit to hold a protest at the site on June 26th. At this point they haven't received the okay. He said that the Port Authority which has jurisdiction over the site has been difficult to work with. He expressed hopes that the church can be built within two years. Bro. Nick said that national membership is over 16,000 with the Treasury benefiting. In October he went to JFK Stadium and presented the Harry Agannis Award.

Officer Reports:

Supreme Vice President John Grossomanides, Jr. reported that the delegate forms for the Supreme Convention are due on June 1st. Four chapters have housing. 5,000 units have been built. Capitol Hill Day in Washington D.C. has held to support several initiatives in Congress. 6 out of 7 congressmen in CT have joined the Hellenic Conference. The Supreme Convention will be held July 19-23, 2011; next year the Convention will be in Las Vegas; in 2013, Orlando; in 2014, New Orleans. There are 822 members now in District 7. Waterbury had 12 new members and will be recognized at the Supreme Convention. Bridgeport has 10 new members; Stamford-10; Hartford-6; and Norwich-8. He also spoke of the Regional Banquet and its success.

Governor Moshovos thanked everyone for coming and gave his report. See Governor's Report- attached.

Kyp Kyprianou was honored for his service as Supreme Governor. He spoke about some of the political races that are taking place in CT. He spoke specifically about Dan Roberti who is running for Chris Murphy's position in Congress. His father was a long-term congressman. He is a supporter of Greek causes.

Sons of Pericles Report: Manny Sfinarolakis reported that we have two Sons of Pericles chapters in our district; Waterbury and Bridgeport. The Hall of Fame Dinner was the biggest event of the year.

Housing: John Melanopoulos spoke about the current status of AHEPA housing. Hartford put in for phase 3 in South Windsor on a 3 ½ acre parcel with a projected 40 units. All town officials have issued supportive letters. AHEPA National Housing has sponsored the project. Only 2,600 units are being approved nationally. Only 202 units are being done in New England states.

Elections:

Governor: Bro. Nick Nikas nominated Moe Moshovos for Governor. Manny Sfinarolakis seconded. John Grossomanides, Jr. moved that nominations be closed and the secretary be instructed to cast one vote.

Lt. Governor: John Grossomanides, Jr. moved to nominate Jack Isaac for Lt. Governor. John Coccolis seconded

the nomination. Moved to close nominations; secretary was instructed to cast one vote.

Secretary: John Grossomanides, Jr. moved to nominate John Bochanis as Secretary. Steve Jennings seconded. Moved to close nominations; secretary was instructed to cast one vote.

Treasurer: Bro. Ernie Poole moved to nominate John Grossomanides, Jr. as Treasurer. Steve Jennings seconded the motion. Moved to close nominations and instructed the secretary to cast one vote.

Marshall: John Grossomanides moved to nominate Manny Sfinarolakis as Marshall. Steve Jennings seconded the motion. Moved to close nominations and instructed the secretary to cast one vote.

Other officers will be appointed by the District Lodge.

For the Good of the Order:

Financial: Bro. John Grossomanides, Sr. presented a commemorative paperweight to Steve Jennings.

Bro. Steve asked for a financial report. He explained that the fiscal year ends in June and asked for a confirmation that the budget for next year be approximately the same as the current year. John Grossomanides, Sr. said it should be approximately the same. Bro. Steve Jennings moved to continue the same budget for next year. Bro. Ernie Poole seconded. Motion carried.

Convention: Bro. Nick Nikas said that next year is not a Tri-District year. Bro. Steve Jennings said Newport should be considered for a convention city if no one else expresses an interest. Bro. Moe Moshovos suggested that we leave the decision of the convention city open. Bro. John Grossomanides, Jr. suggested we provide more information on future conventions. Bro. Kyp Kyprianou suggested we change the date of the convention, making it May or June. Bro. John Melanopoulos suggested combining chapters for the next convention.

Three officers were sworn in: Lt. Governor, Treasurer, and Marshall.

John Grossomanides, Jr. moved to adjourn. Paul Velezis seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Jack Isaac