

AHEPA Yankee District 7 Convention

May 5, 2012
Mainstay Inn, Newport, Rhode Island

The Meeting of AHEPA Yankee District 7 opened at 10:30 AM.

George Scarveles was selected as chairman of the convention, Richard Pecka, Jr. was selected as vice-chairman and Alex Boutsoulis was selected as secretary.

AHEPA Chapters and Delegates:

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Delegate</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Delegate</u>
048 Waterbury	Alex Boutsoulis	048 Waterbury	4
048 Waterbury	Richard Pecka	058 Hartford	2
048 Waterbury	Richard Pecka, Jr.	098 New Haven	3
048 Waterbury	John Ververis	099 Stamford	4
058 Hartford	John Melonopoulos	106 Providence	1
058 Hartford	Emmanuel Moshovos	110 Norwich	4
098 New Haven	Donald Feliciano	117 New Britain	2
098 New Haven	George Scarveles	126 Meriden	1
098 New Haven	Greg Stamos	245 Newport	5
099 Stamford	James J. Cocolis	<u>250 New London</u>	<u>2</u>
099 Stamford	James W. Cocolis		
099 Stamford	Arthur Kiratsous	10 Chapters	
099 Stamford	Nicholas Nikas	30 Delegates	
106 Providence	Harold W. Demopoulos		
110 Norwich	John Grossomanides		
110 Norwich	John G. Grossomanides		
110 Norwich	Anthony Neigel		
110 Norwich	Ernie Pool		
117 New Britain	Jack Isaac		
117 New Britain	Andy Aros		
126 Meriden	Michael T. Michael		
245 Newport	George Anagnostos		
245 Newport	Steve Jennings		
245 Newport	George H. Koulouvardis		
245 Newport	Basile Panoutsopoulos		
245 Newport	Michael Sisak		
250 New London	Terry Mitchell		
250 New London	Demetrius E. Tasoulas		

In addition, AHEPA Supreme President, Dr. John Grossomanides, AHEPA Supreme Secretary Philip Frangos, from Wolverine Chapter 142 - Lansing, Michigan and AHEPA Supreme Treasurer Andrew C. Zachariades from Chapter 108 – Hudson, New Jersey also participated in the meeting.

Also, Sons of Pericles (SOP) Supreme Treasurer John Ververis from Chapter 61 – Waterbury, Connecticut and Niko Kotsaftis and Zachary Tzezos also from the SOP Chapter 61 – Waterbury, Connecticut participated in the meeting.

Former SOP Supreme President, Richard (Rick) Pecka, Jr. introduced current SOP Supreme Treasurer John Ververis. John provided an update of SOP Chapter 61 activities in 2011-2012. The chapter had a regional Dodgeball tournament with many Northeastern teams participating (January 2012) and an April 2012 Hall of Fall fund raising dinner (attended by 200) honoring Waterbury AHEPAN Steven Gagas. George Scarveles spoke at the Hall of Fame dinner and presented to the Waterbury SOP chapter the 1st SOP National Program/Ad Book (1929).

Bro. John G. Grossomanides – District 7 Treasurer presented the 2011-12 District financial report.

Bro. Jack Isaac, District 7 Lieutenant Governor presented his report.

Bro. Emmanuel “Moe” Moshovos, District 7 Governor presented attached report. Highlights of the Governor’s report included the following:

- Congratulated Nicholas Nikas for another successful Hellenic History Tournament (HHT). Appreciated the New Haven AHEPA Chapter and St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church (Orange, CT) for becoming the permanent host of HHT.
- Greek Night @ New Britain Rock Cats baseball game. Please plan to attend game (7/3/12), since it is fund-raiser for the Daughters of Penelope.
- Appreciated the effort of the Norwich and New Haven AHEPA chapters for hosting the Spring 2012 and Fall 2011 conferences respectively.
- Scholarship Dinner – August 2011 in New Britain. The dinner raised \$1200 towards 2012 scholarships.
- Attended New England AHEPA Regional Committee in Worcester, MA.
- Attended New York City Greek Independence Parade in 2012.
- Congratulations to all from District 7 who have AHEPA and SOP national leadership roles: Dr. John Grossomanides – AHEPA Supreme President, Manolis Sfinarolakis – Sons of Pericles Supreme President and John Ververis – Sons of Pericles Supreme Treasurer.
- Growth in District 7 AHEPA membership.
- Would like to be remembered for the membership growth and education.
- Proud of scholarship emphasis @ Yankee District 7.

Bro. Greg Stamos, AHEPA National Athletic Advisor, from New Haven AHEPA provided the following comments:

- Praised National President - John Grossomanides, District 7 Governor – Emmanuel Moshovos and District 7 Lodge
- Discussed Athens AHEPA Convention in 2008 and how he was involved in bringing a team comprised of Greek American College basketball players to play in Greece. Highlight was defeating the Greek National Junior team.
- Involved with the National AHEPA Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner; developed selection process.
- Athletes and Athletic Contributors that were recently selected: Leonidas Sentiris – UCONN Women’s Soccer Coach; Tom Pappas – USA Decathlon Olympian in 2004 and 2008; Steve Leonidis – Yale Basketball player.
- Developed AHEPA Sport Marketing Video as a marketing tool for fund raising.
- Brought up the closing of the Hellenic Voice, a Greek-American weekly newspaper.

Bro. Nicholas Nikas discussed membership goals given to each chapter as self-imposed goals. ~~Selection will be based upon their academic record and extra-curricular activities.~~ Bro. Nicholas discussed the upcoming 2012 Hellenic History Tournament, which be held October 27, 2012 at St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church, Orange, CT. In addition to receiving commitments from the majority of the District 7 chapters, commitments from District 8 (2 chapters) and District 9 (1 chapter) have been received. Wycoff, NJ and New Rochelle, NY chapters will probably enter teams in the 2012 HHT.

Bro. George Anagnostos discussed the AHEPA National Housing Program HUD regulatory revisions. Tax credit to the existing 92 AHEPAN housing developments are coming to an end. There is a possibility in the future developing AHEPA housing privately in the future. Bro. George also brought up the national scholarship opportunities involving AHEPA housing.

Chapter Reports: 10 of 13 District 7 chapters were represented. The following are their reports:

New Britain: Bro. Andy Aros as the New Britain scholarship chairman stated that \$300,000 has been given in scholarships since 1999. Hellenic Affairs and the New Britain dance group have been funded by the New Britain AHEPA chapter.

Norwich: Bro. Ernie Pool reported the Norwich chapter (largest in District 7) activities. The chapter held the 2012 District 7 Spring conference in April. The chapter’s annual picnic was started again recently and along with an AHEPA night @ Norwich’s Dodd Baseball Stadium. At the June 2012 Awards Night, the Norwich chapter will be providing financial support to other non-profit organizations. Bro. Ernie gave praise to Norwich’s Supreme President Dr. John Grossomanides.

Newport: Bro. Michael Sisak brought up the following activities in his chapter:

- Raffle occurring during the convention
- Successful “murder mystery night” at the Newport playhouse.
- Suggested other affairs could be planned in Newport.
- Sponsored movies and seminars.
- AHEPA support in buying books for the Greek school (language/singing/math)

Stamford: Bro. Arthur Kiratsous discussed the following activities in his chapter:

- Praised the increasing membership in the chapter due to efforts of Bro. Nicholas Nikas.
- Sponsored various Hellenic presentations at both Yale University and Fairfield University.
- One of seminars included the current economic perspective of Greece.
- Chapter sponsored various Greek movies during the year; attendance in the 60-70 range.
- A lecture involving a Russian iconographer was attended by 50.
- Provided financial assistance to Greece through the National AHEPA program.

New London: Bro. Demetrius Tasoulas stated an increase in chapter membership. Academic scholarship awards scheduled for June. Meetings continue to held in Niantic,CT.

Waterbury: Bro. Alex Boutsoulis provided an overview of the Waterbury chapter activities:

- Monthly dinner meetings with approximate 30-35 in attendance.
- Three scholarship fund raising dinners open to public (September, January, April) with approximate 150 – 170 in attendance.
- Supported SOP Hall of Fame Dinner honoring fellow AHEPAN Steven Gagas – April 21, 2012. Over 200 attended the affair.
- Annual Chapter 48 Scholarship Awards Luncheon – June 3, 2012.
- Mets Baseball Game @ Flushing, NY – Sunday, August 5, 2012.
- Yankee District 7 Scholarship Dinner – August 18, 2012 to be held in Waterbury, CT. Proceeds fund additional Daughters of Penelope scholarship.
- 16th Annual AHEPA Chapter 48 Scholarship golf tournament to be held at Western Hill Golf Club – September 9, 2012. The cost is \$125 per golfer; all are welcome to participate.

Hartford: Bro. John Melonopoulos brought up the following activities in the chapter:

- Chapter formed a 501C3.
- Along with a regular monthly meeting, a strategy is held.
- Recognition awards dinner planned – June 2012. HHT participants and others will be recognized.
- Chapter Newsletter won AHEPA news award.

Meriden: Bro. Michael T. Michael stated there are 15 AHEPA members in the Meriden chapter.

Providence: Bro. Harold Demopulos DGP of 1966-1967 provided interesting stories regarding his father, who was AHEPA Supreme Governor (East of the Mississippi) and started the Providence, RI chapter in 1938.

New Haven: Bro. Greg Stamos provided the following update on his chapter:

- Initiated 10 new inductees.
- Four times a year AHEPA sponsors a pancake scholarship fund-raising breakfast.
- Has supported various parish activities at St. Barbara Orthodox Church, Orange, CT.
- Various speakers were hosted such as a Russian iconographer and boxing referee/promoter.

AHEPA Supreme Treasurer Andrew C. Zachariades from Chapter 108 – Hudson, New Jersey provided the following update:

- Chapter 108 has had increase in membership from 50 to 65.
- All AHEPA chapters will be receiving a 501C3 charitable foundation exemption through the efforts of AHEPA National Headquarter staff.
- 90th Anniversary of AHEPA in 2012. The 1st 50 years of AHEPA will be reprinted. Chapters can order DVD or paper copy.
- Considering developing a marketing DVD to increase AHEPA membership.

AHEPA Supreme Secretary Philip Frangos, from Wolverine Chapter 142 - Lansing, Michigan provided interesting speech regarding AHEPA and it's important to him. Bro. Phil has traveled extensively for AHEPA. Story regarding Supreme President Grossomanides and other AHEPA national leaders meeting Turkish government officials was very interesting.

SOP Supreme Treasurer John Ververis brought up the following topics:

- Recent all-time high membership in SOP.
- Attended and participated in SOP basketball tournament in Los Angeles, CA in January 2012.
- Plan to participate in SOP basketball tournament in Astoria, NY in June 2-4, 2012.
- National Fund Raiser Raffle will support Juvenile Diabetes.

Convention Reports:

Membership: Bro. Dick Pecka – Waterbury.

- Recommends bringing in your sons, grand-sons, relatives and friends in to the Order of AHEPA.
- Also recommends bringing in new members of non-Greek heritage.

Legislative: Bro. John Melonopoulos

- Meeting reports should be completed prior to meeting and sent out prior to convention.
- Suggestion made: send out convention agenda out prior to District convention. Recommended cutoff date – April 30.

Finance: Bro. John G. Grossomanides

- Refer to attached financial report.
- Suggestion made by Bro. John Melonopoulos: Circulate budget prior to District convention. Recommended cutoff date – April 30.
- Finance report accepted unanimously.

Yankee News: Bro. Alex Boutsoulis

- Contribute pictures and articles on a timely manner to make the Yankee News more outstanding.
- Consider emailing Yankee News to those who use the internet.

Motions:

Motion was made Bro. Donald Feliciano to increase the Yankee News \$1.25/capita to \$5/capita. Motion seconded by Bro. Greg Stamos. Motion failed – 9 supported motion and 10 voted against motion.

Motion was made by Bro. Mo Moshovos to have District 7 donate \$1000 to National AHEPA Greek Relief Fund. Motion seconded by Bro. Jack Isaac. Motion passed with majority of hands.

Elections:

Governor: Bro. Mo Moshovos nominated Jack Isaac for Governor. Greg Stamos seconded. John Grossomandes, Jr. moved that nominations be closed and the secretary be instructed to cast one vote.

Lt. Governor: Bro. Mo Moshovos nominated Alex Boutsoulis for Lt. Governor. Dick Pecka seconded. Moved to close nominations be closed; secretary was instructed to cast one vote.

Secretary: Bro. Jack Isaac nominated Andy Aros for Secretary. John Melonopoulos seconded. Moved to close nominations be closed; secretary was instructed to cast one vote.

Treasurer: Bro. Jack Isaac nominated John G. Grossomanides for Treasurer. John Melonopoulos seconded. Moved to close nominations be closed; secretary was instructed to cast one vote.

Warden: Bro. Jack Isaac nominated Richard Pecka, Jr. for Warden. John Ververis seconded. Moved to close nominations be closed; secretary was instructed to cast one vote.

Officers were sworn in.

George Scarveles moved to adjourn. Greg Stamos seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by
Alex Boutsoulis