

AHEPA DISTRICT 7 SPRING CONFERENCE

March 17, 2012, Saturday

Location: Norwich Chapter 110

10:00a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Meeting minutes

Meeting Attendance: AHEPA: 36

Daughters of Penelope : 25

11 out of 14 Chapters were represented at the conference.

JOINT SESSION

Scholarship

No new events were reported pertaining to the District Scholarship.

PADEA

PADEA will be presenting an award on March 24th at the State House honoring , Professor Catherine Schwab of Fairfield University for her work on promoting Hellenic culture.

Hellenic History Tournament

Brother Nick Nikas indicated that the fourth Hellenic History Tournament would be held on October 20th at St Barbara's Church, Orange, CT. Brother Nikas emphasized that the Chapters need to start organizing teams.

A question was raised about having a reunion for prior team participants. It was briefly discussed and it was noted that many past participants are away at college so that scheduling such an event may be an issue.

District Convention

Brothers Anagnostos and Jennings informed the attendees that the 80th Yankee District Seven Convention will be held at the Mainstay Inn, Newport, Rhode Island on May 4,5,6, 2012.

Brother Jennings distributed handouts concerning the details of the convention and also highlighted Friday evening's entertainment which will be a Cabaret dinner featuring "Death of a Don" at The Newport Playhouse & Cabaret Restaurant.

AHEPA National

AHEPA Supreme President, John Grossomanides made a presentation concerning AHEPA National events.

President Grossomanides noted that it would be the 90th anniversary of AHEPA. During the last three years AHEPA membership has increased by approximately 1,200 members.

President Grossomanides also informed the attendees that an ad sponsored by AHEPA was published in the New York Times commemorating September 11th and the need to rebuild St. Nicholas Church, which was also destroyed at Ground Zero on September 11th.

Less than a month after the ad ran an agreement was signed between the Archdiocese and the Port Authority providing land for the Archdiocese to rebuild St. Nicholas. The structure, which was formerly nine hundred square feet, will increase to approximately four thousand square feet.

President Grossomanides also reminded the attendees that the National Convention would be held this year in Las Vegas on July 22 through 27. The convention will be held at the Monte Carlo Hotel and rooms have been set aside at the convention rate of \$69.00 per night.

Finally, President Grossomanides informed the attendees that AHEPA has organized a humanitarian effort in Greece to help children who have suffered economically. The program will help with the purchase of food coupons to be given to children who cannot afford to bring lunch to school. The aid will be distributed through local AHEPA Chapters in Greece.

AHEPA separate meeting session:

Hellenic History Tournament

Nick Nikas made a presentation concerning the Hellenic History Tournament. This years Hellenic History Tournament will take place on October 20th at St. Barbara's church in Orange, CT. Registration must be filed by June 30th.

Brother Nikas stated that 13 out of 14 Chapters contributed to last year's tournament.

Brother Nikas indicated that the participation fee will be \$100.00 and that a team fee will be \$203.00 per team.

Brother Nikas indicated that it would be ideal to have 16 teams participate. Last year teams from out-of-state participated including from Boston.

Membership

Nick Nikas conducted a presentation concerning District membership.

US districts grew by 1%. In 2011 our District grew by 6%.

District 7 is eighth worldwide with approximately 869 members.

District 7 is first in retention of all United States Districts.

Brother Nikas asked for year end 2012 membership goals from each Chapter;

Waterbury: 105

Hartford: 81

Danbury: 33 (not present, via email)

Bridgeport: 101

New Haven: 61

Stamford: 101

Providence: not present

Norwich: 120

New Britain: 57

Meriden: 18

Newport: 59
New London: 55
Norwalk: 35
Danielson: not present

Sons of Pericles:

Sons of Pericles Supreme President, Manolis Sfinarolakis was attending the GOYA Olympics in New York City.

The Sons of Pericles report was read indicating that national membership has quadrupled. The funding objective was to support juvenile diabetes research.

Hellenic Affairs

Report from George Rados was read.

The Greek flag will be raised to commemorate Greek Independence Day. Greek Independence Day will also be celebrated at the State Capitol and New York City. The New York City Greek Independence Day parade will take place on March 25th.

Ms. District 7 was selected for the New York City parade.

The Greek Independence Day parade in Boston will take place on April 22nd.

There still is a need for a Hellenic Affairs committee with representatives from each Chapter.

Housing Program

George Anagnostos made a presentation concerning AHEPA housing. Brother George indicated that the HUD 202 program was the past program, which was used, but it appears that the government may be moving towards a grant program instead.

District 7 Governors Report

Overview: Governor Emmanuel "Mo" Moshovos gave a State of the District 7 year being very successful in membership retention (99% - 1st Nationally), recruitment (26% above goal- 2nd Nationally), for all Chapters to remember to submit their District per capita asap and to send there Greek Independence Day NYC Float support of \$50 to the Dist.Treasurer. The Governor spoke of and gave out material relevant to "First of the Year Chapter Billing Instructions - 2012, Summary of the AhepAcademy Program & Journey to Greece Program, a list of ideas for Chapter Projects noting, Ahepa is only as strong as its Chapters, and as Chapter Officers is their responsibility to provide a strong Chapter program. The Governor provided a list of eighty (87) suggestions that the Chapters may wish to consider.

The Governor asked for the Chapters to submit names to be considered for District Chapter of the Year, Ahepan of the Year, Hellene of the Year and also a young female from our Ahepa Communities to represent District 7 on the Ahepa Float in the March 25th Greek Ind.Parade in NYC. He also reminded all the Chapters of the May 4-6 District Convention and the July 22nd National Convention & to submit their applications and delegate names ASAP. In conclusion, "Asked the members to invest in promoting Hellenism."

Meeting adjourned 12:30 PM for joint lunch with the DofP

Brother John Bochanis

District 7 Secretary

(Sent to District 7 Governor April 2, 2012)

(2012 membership goals edited by SG Nikas)