



ORDER OF AHEPA
MOTHER LODGE FOUNDED JULY 26, 1922
YANKEE DISTRICT # 7
2013 DISTRICT CONVENTION
MAY 17 – 19, 2013 MINUTES

NERC REGIONAL CONVENTION OPENING CEREMONIES

General Chairman George Anagnostos welcomed Supreme and Grand Lodge officers, the six District Lodges, delegates and friends to the Twelfth New England Regional Convention, at 9:25 AM, May 18, 2013. Prior to introducing the Supreme and Grand Lodge officers present, Chairperson Anagnostos announced that Supreme President John G Grossomanides jr. and Grand Lodge Grand Vice President Anna-Helene Grossomanides were unable to attend our respective District Conventions because they were attending the Commencement Exercises at Hellenic College/Holy Cross Theological Seminary. They will however attend the Grand Banquet this evening.

Officers present from the AHEPA Supreme Lodge were Supreme Secretary Philip Frangos, Supreme Treasurer Anthony Drakos, Supreme Governor for Region 4 John Tanionos, Board of Trustees John Galanis and Constantine Calliontzis. Grand Lodge Officers present included: Grand President Joanne Saltas, Grand Secretary Demi Thomas, Grand Governor Zone 3 Barbara Maligas, and Executive Director Elena Saviolakis. Representing the Grand Lodge of the Maids of Athena was Ionna Siontas. From the Sons of Pericles present were Supreme Vice President John Ververis and Supreme Governor Andreas Christou.

A summary of the visiting dignitaries remarks included:

1/ The AHEPA family stands together, and we will achieve our goals as a family. To accomplish this it is incumbent upon us to increase our membership.

2/ The Hellenic History Tournament begun in our Yankee District by Past Supreme Governor Nick Nikas will expand to other districts.

3/ Domestic abuse must not be tolerated and the DOP's Penelope's Place is evidence our efforts to combat the practice.

4/ It was announced that three members of the New England Congressional Delegation are NOT members of the Hellenic Caucus. AHEPA must increase its efforts to get these representatives into the caucus as well as increase our efforts for support of Greece, this is imperative if we are to counteract the actions of others.

Chairperson Anagnostos announced we will have a 50/50 raffle this year. The winning ticket will be drawn at the Grand Banquet tonight.

Opening Ceremonies concluded at 10:05AM

YANKEE DISTRICT # 7 2013 CONVENTION

District Governor Jack Isaac convened our meeting at 10:15AM. After attendance was taken a moment of silence was asked for in reverence to the late Brothers Gus Hologgitas and Alex Vlantés both longtime life members of AHEPA.

Election of Convention Chairperson

- 1/ PSG Nick Nikas nominated PDG Steve Jennings to be Convention Chairman
- 2/ Approved by acclamation

Election of Convention Secretary

- 1/ PDG George Rados nominated Andy Aros
- 2/ Approved by acclamation

District Lodge Officers Reports

District Treasurer -John Grossomanides sr.

Report tabled until 2013 Fall Conference

District Secretary – Andy Aros

- 1/ Attended all District Lodge and Conference meeting
- 2/ Attended all Convention Planning Conferences
- 3/ Wrote and distributed minutes of all attended meetings
- 4/ With the District Governor made chapter visitations and attended several initiations
- 5/ Attended the District Scholarship Dinner
- 6/ Attended the New Britain Rock Cats AHEPA Family Greek Night
- 6/ Executed others directives as requested by District Governor Isaac.

District Lt Governor – Alex Boutsoulis

- 1/ Attended all District Lodge and Conference meeting
- 2/ With the District Governor made chapter visitations and attended several initiations
- 3/ Attended the District Scholarship Dinner
- 4/ Supported Paideia's Fundraiser at New Haven
- 5/ Supported the Storm Sandy Relief van from Waterbury
- 6/ Attended various chapters' scholarship fund raiser dinners and other events
- 7/ Along with my father, John Boutsoulis was honored at the 6th Sons Of Pericles Hall of Fame Dinner
- 8/ Attended the District Scholarship Dinner
- 9/ Executed others directives as requested by District Governor Isaac.

District Governor – Jack Isaac

- 1/ Made visitations to 13 of the 14 Chapters in our District. Some chapters I visited multiple times.
- 2/ Attended various chapters' awards nights and other social events
- 3/ Participated in several chapter initiations

- 4/ Organized District # 7 Super Storm Sandy Relief Effort
- 5/ Attended all District Lodge and Conference meeting
- 6/ Attended all Convention Planning Conferences
- 7/ Attended the District Governors' Conference in Washington DC
- 8/ Participated in Paideia fundraiser in Orange
- 9/ Organized the District's participation in the "Relay for Life" program
- 10/ Organized the Governor's Advisory Board
- 11/ Appointed Greg Stamos as Yankee District # 7 Legal Advisor.
- 12/ Organized with the Daughters of Penelope the 2014 "Night At the Races" Scholarship event.
- 13/ Assisted the editing of the Yankee District News
- 14/ Attended both state and local chapters' participation on Greek Independence Day Celebrations.
- 15/ Executed all duties assigned to the office of District Governor

Supreme Lodge Reports

Supreme Secretary Philip Frangos

Topics from his address included

- 1/ made visitation to 65 chapters in 15 districts
- 2/ beneficial for chapters to visit each other
- 3/ publicize chapter and district activities
- 4/ stressed importance of Congressional Hellenic Caucus
- 5/ reestablished Congressional Banquet –when Congress is in session.
- 6/ hospitals in Greece had budgets cut 75% and desperately need supplies
(Interrupted by convention delegates who explained we are willing to help but not be exploited.)
- 7/ AHEPA must increase its use of technology on all levels
- 8/ National Convention will be in Orlando Florida in August
- 9/ Regional Workshops could reduce travel and improve chapter administration

Supreme Board of Trustees John Galanis

Important topics his address included:

- 1/ local chapter problems are National AHEPA problems
- 2/ target younger people to become AHEPANS
- 3/ make local meetings worthwhile,
- 4/ increase chapter publicity by having special guest speakers
(possible idea have an expert on property taxes)
- 5/ these meetings can be open to the public

Supreme Governor Region 4 John A Tanionos

Important topics his address included:

- 1/ reiterated DG Isaac's remarks concerning Paideia and AHEPA
- 2/ members who live in the Fifth Congressional District should implore Congresswomen Elizabeth Esty to join the Hellenic Caucus
- 3/ Harry Agganis Foundation
 - a/ distributed pamphlet explaining the foundation

b/ all previous winners of the Harry Agganis Hellenic Athletic Award were listed

c/ the process of nominating an athlete explained

d/ requested chapters and/or individuals donate to the foundation

e/ chapters who donate will receive a DVD produced by the Agganis family to celebrate the memory of one of the greatest Greek-American Athlete that ever lived.

4/ place newly inducted AHEPA members on a working committee

District Committee Reports

Membership –PDG Nick Nikas Chairman

District membership at the end of the fiscal year will be between 837 and 850 members. The following suggestions were presented to increase membership:

1/ ask people to join, do not assume they do not wish to become members

2/ involve new members in the activities of the chapter

3/ some members will only be paper members but keep them paying dues

4/ recommended district-wide initiations

5/ possible sources of new members, previous scholarship winners and non-Hellenes

6/ produce a multi columned brochure, describing chapter, district and national activities

AHEPA Housing- PSS George Anagnostos

Current direction for expansion of AHEPA Housing is to purchase older properties. As of today in the process of submitted bids for two such properties. Also offering management administrative assistance to properties in need of such expertise. The bureaucratic morass is very difficult to navigate. Four properties in South Carolina have developed mold problems. There are law suits against the architect and builder.

Budget Report

Will be presented at the 2013 Fall Conference.

Hellenic Affairs – PDG George Rados

The committee, included the Sons of Pericles. Requested that each chapter invest approximately \$ 30.00 and sponsor a “Greek Flag raising ceremony in their local municipality. Further input will be presented after the results from the Sons of Pericles “promote Hellenism” is completed.

Yankee News: - PDG Ernest Pool

Former Yankee District News editor and delegate John Melonopoulos questioned the current format and why our newsletter is currently running a deficit. Majority of delegates approved the current format. Chairman Pool explained that the major problem is that many chapters do not submit their articles and pictures in a timely manner. If each chapter were to collect 2 advertisements the deficit would no longer exist.

Convention Chairperson Steve Jennings requested convention recess and reconvene after lunch. So moved by George Rados, Seconded by George Scarveles. Meeting was recessed at 12:15 PM

2013 CONVENTION AFTERNOON SESSION

Convention Chairperson Steve Jennings reconvened the 2013 Yankee District # 7 Convention at 2:20PM.

New Business

District Website

Reported by PDG Nick Nikas that the District Website bill has not been paid nor was last year's bill paid.

Moved by John Melonopoulos that Yankee District pay the past two years bill and pay one year forward as well. With the provision, an invoice be provided.

Seconded by PDG George Scarveles

Motion Passed: Unanimously

Miss AHEPA

Discussion of the requirements for the candidates aspiring to be Miss AHEPA included:

a/ sponsored by a chapter not a parent

b/ single

c/ College or High School student

d/ Yankee District is part of Region 4, should we remain in the New York Parade, or become part of the Boston Parade which includes Region 4?

Subject was referred to the Combined District Lodges for further clarification.

Supreme Lodge Endorsements

Moved by PDG George Scarveles that Yankee District # 7 endorse Greg Stamos for Supreme Council and Nick Nikas for Supreme Governor.

Seconded by PDG George Rados

Motion Passed: Unanimously

Greek Firefighters Training

Again this year Greek Volunteer Firefighters are going to train in Rhode Island. These people will return to Greece and train other Firefighters in the techniques learned here. Supreme President John G Grossomanides jr. has requested that our district donate \$1,000.00 to assist in offsetting their expenses.

Moved by PDG George Scarveles that \$ 1,000.00 be donated to assist the Volunteer Firefighters from Greece with their training expenses.

Seconded by PDG Emmanuel Moshovos.

Motion Passed: Unanimously

Hellenic History Tournament

Chairperson PDG Nick Nikas announced the deadline for submitting teams for the 2013 Hellenic History Tournament is June 30, 2013. Projections indicate an increased number of teams will be entered into this year's tournament. More information will be posted in the District Website.

Support for the Needy of Greece

Delegate Costas Georgacopoulos of Elpis Chapter # 117, explained his chapter is supportive of AHEPA's efforts in Greece, but wished to act directly with charitable groups in Greece. The chapter raised approximately \$ 1, 500.00. In Greece, items were purchased and given to Daughters of Penelope Chapter # 271 of Athens to distribute. The chapter plans on continuing this activity.

Review of District Bylaws

District Bylaws need to be reviewed and updated. District Lt Governor Alex Boutsioulis accepted the task and will report his findings at the Fall Conference.

Newport Playhouse Ticket Reimbursement

Tickets for the Newport Playhouse had to be purchased in advance. Convention Chairperson PSS George Anagnostos paid for all the tickets. There are seven tickets that were unused, and PSS Anagnostos would have to pay for the tickets out of his own pocket. These tickets could have been for VIPs who were not in attendance.

Moved by PDG Ernest Pool That Chairperson PSS Anagnostos be reimbursed for the purchased tickets.

Seconded by PDG George Scarveles

Discussion of the motion: NERC reimburse PSS Anagnostos the shortfall of tickets for the Newport Playhouse from the convention income.

Motion Passed: Unanimously

Election of 2013 District Lodge

District Governor

PDG Emmanuel Moshovos nominated Jack Isaac

Seconded PDG George Rados

Nominations were closed

Convention Secretary was instructed to cast 1 vote for Jack Isaac for District Governor

2013 District Governor is Jack Isaac

District Lt. Governor

PDG George Scarveles nominated Alex Boutsioulis

Seconded PDG George Rados

Nominations were closed

Convention Secretary was instructed to cast 1 vote for Alex Boutsioulis for District Lt. Governor

2013 District Lt. Governor is Alex Boutsioulis

District Treasurer

PDG George Scarveles nominated John Melonopoulos

Seconded PDG George Rados

Nominations were closed

Convention Secretary was instructed to cast 1 vote for John Melonopoulos for District Treasurer

2013 District Treasurer is John Melonopoulos

District Secretary

PDG Nick Nikas nominated Andy Aros

Seconded PDG Ernest Pool

Nominations were closed

Convention Secretary was instructed to cast 1 vote for Andy Aros for
District Secretary

2013 District Secretary is Andrew Aros

Installation of District Lodge

Convention Chairperson Steve Jennings installed the 2013 District Lodge except
for District Governor who would be installed at the Grand Banquet.

Grand Banquet Awards

AHEPAN of the Year – Greg Stamos

Hellene of the Year – George Syrimis

Chapter of the Year – Waterbury # 48

Meeting adjourned 3:05 PM

Andy Aros

2013 Convention Secretary