



ORDER OF AHEPA
MOTHER LODGE FOUNDED JULY 26, 1922
YANKEE DISTRICT # 7
2014 DISTRICT CONVENTION
MAY2-3-4 2014 MINUTES

COMBINED MEETING OF AHEPA FAMILY

2014 Convention Chairperson PSS George Anagnostos called the Eighty Second Yankee District # 7 Convention to order at 9:25 AM on May 3, 2014. He welcomed everyone to the convention; he then thanked the District Lodges, the Convention Committees from AHEPA Maud Howe Elliott Chapter #245 and Daughters of Penelope of Ares Chapter #49 for their support and assistance for making this convention possible. A special thank you was given to Penny Hiotis and Ellen Anagnostos for their work at the registration desk. He reminded the members present, that the \$15.00 registration was approved at the 2013 convention. The members present from the AHEPA Supreme Lodge were introduced and each made a few welcoming remarks. Unfortunately the Daughters of Penelope Grand Lodge Officers could not be present; they are attending a testimonial for their Grand President Joanne Saltas.

Supreme Counselor Greg Stamos explained that the mission of the Supreme Counselor is to advise the Supreme Lodge on legal matters, however, he seems to be spending much time assisting local chapters in settling their internal disputes.

Supreme Governor Nick Nikas was chairman of the AHEPA Membership Committee and his region was the only one that had an increase in membership. As the guiding force of the Hellenic History Tournament, he announced that it is beginning to spread to other Districts. He asked all the members present to urge young people to participate in the 2014 Tournament. The deadline for registration is in June.

Supreme Treasurer Andrew Zachariades stated this was the fourth Yankee District Convention he has attended and he explained that one of the most important functions of a District Convention was for the members to find common ground. He announced that even though his term of office is expiring, Supreme Governor Nikas will continue to spearhead AHEPA's membership drive.

Supreme Vice President Philip Frangos asked the members to remember that the history of AHEPA is one of giving back to the community. The local chapters need to hear what their community needs are and try to fulfill that need. This will benefit the community, increase AHEPA visibility, and further our mission to promote Hellenism.

Brother Anagnostos introduced Daughters of Penelope District Governor Penny Pecka. She said the past two years were successful because both District Lodges planned and worked

together on District events. She also thanked her District Lodge Officers, Lt. Governor Karen Isaac, Secretary Myrsini Papoutsis, Treasurer Donna Rados, PDG, and Advisor Lucia Kazakos, PDG, for their support. DG Pecka announced the Scholarship Dinner would be at Holy Trinity Church in Waterbury, August 17, 2014. Nite at the Races was fun, and the next time it is to be held, it should be even better.

AHEPA District Governor Jack Isaac thanked Convention Chairperson Anagnostos for all of his hard work planning the convention. He described AHEPA as a sleeping giant whose potential for community service and promotion of Hellenism has yet to be reached. He introduced his District Lodge, Lt Governor Alex Boutsioulis, Treasurer John Melonopoulos, Secretary Andrew Aros, Sons of Pericles Advisor John Ververis, Warden Dick Pecka, Marshall Demetrius Tasoulas, Hellenic Affairs, George Rados, Advisor Emmanuel Moshovos, PDG, then thanked them for their service.

YANKEE DISTRICT # 7 FOUNDATION, INC.

Yankee District # 7 Foundation Inc, President John Grossomanides called the meeting together at 10:30 AM. Foundation Treasurer Steve Jennings informed the members present that the Foundation had not paid its income taxes since 2001. After much effort, the tax issue was solved, the records were brought up to date, and the Foundation received a refund of \$300.00. The 2013-2014 Financial Report showed a Net Income of \$8,181.80 and Current Assets of \$476,684.06.

Brother Grossomanides announced the Foundation has \$18,000 for District Scholarships, plus \$1,000.00 from the District #7 Daughters of Penelope, and the \$1,000 from the Niarkos Foundation. Move to accept the report was made by Jerry Copsinis, seconded by George Scarveles PDG, motion carried. Brother Jennings informed the members present that his personal calendar has become so very busy that it is necessary for him to resign his position as Foundation Treasurer. He is more than willing to continue as an advisor to the incoming Foundation Treasurer. Brother George Scarveles, PDG nominated Jack Isaac, Emmanuel Moshovos, PDG, seconded the nomination. Brother Jack Isaac was elected to succeed Steve Jennings as Treasurer.

YANKEE DISTRICT #7 CONVENTION MEETING

District Governor Jack Isaac convened our meeting at 11:00 AM. He asked for a moment of silence was in reverence to our late Brothers.

I/ Election of Convention Chairperson and Secretary

A/ PSG Emmanuel Moshovos nominated PDG Steve Jennings to be Convention Chairman

B/ Seconded by George Scarvelas

C/ Approved by acclamation

D/ District Secretary Andy Aros assumed the position of Convention Secretary without discussion or vote.

II/ District Lodge Officers Reports

A/ District Governor's Report – Jack Isaac

- 1/ Made visitations to most chapters with multiple visitations to some; often participating in initiations and attending award ceremonies.
- 2/ Attended many AHEPA social events within the District.
- 3/ Participated in the Supreme Convention at Orlando, Florida.
- 4/ Chaired both the Spring and Fall District Conferences
- 5/ Attended the District Governor's Conference in Washington, DC
- 6/ Conducted Joint District Lodge Meetings with the DOP District Governor.
- 7/ Acted as scorekeeper in the Hellenic History Tournament
- 8/ Marched in the New York Greek Independence Day Parade.
- 9/ Attended March 25th Celebrations in West Hartford, New Britain, Middletown, Bristol, and New Britain
- 10/ Helped organize the panel discussion at Yale University on the "Situation of Christians in the Middle East Since the Arab Spring"
- 11/ Participated in several Planning Sessions for the Yankee District News, also acted as Contributing Editor and Photographer. The Yankee District News deficit been greatly reduced
- 12/ Along with the DOP helped organize "Nite at the Races" fundraiser
- 13/ Participated in District and Regional Convention planning sessions.
- 14/ Encouraged Chapters to become more directly involved with local community organizations, initiating the slogan "AHEPA GIVES BACK"
- 15/ Elected to the Board of Directors of CCARC, A New Britain organization working with developmentally challenged adults. For several years participated in Elpis #117, volunteer program for CCARC.

B/ Lt. Governor's Report – Alex Boutsoulis

- 1/ Attended and participated five Joint District Lodge Meetings with the DOP
- 2/ Attended and assisted in six different Scholarship Fundraising events both on a District and local chapter level.
- 3/ Made visitations to New Haven, Newport and Bridgeport Chapters
- 4/ Attended both the Fall and Spring District Conferences
- 5/ Attended the panel discussion at Yale University on the "Situation of Christians in the Middle East Since the Arab Spring"
- 6/ Marched on the New York Greek Independence Day Parade
- 7/ Volunteered as a basketball referee at the Waterbury Sons of Pericles Regional Tournament in November 2013.
- 8/ Will attend the Greater Waterbury "Relay for Life" at Crosby High School.

C/ District Treasurer's Report – John Melonopoulos

- 1/ Presented an extensive power point presentation explaining the both the sources of Yankee District # 7 income and its expenditures.
- 2/ His handouts included a detailed listing of income and expenditure for 2013-14
- 3/ 2013-2014 Budget

Income Totals	\$15,855.00
Expense Totals	\$15,855.00
- 4/ Treasurer Melonopoulos then presented his proposed Budget for 2014-2015
- 5/ Proposed Budget for 2014-2015

Income Totals	\$16,497.00
Expense Totals	\$13,685.72
- 6/ The members present questioned some of proposed income. To be discussed during Convention Committee Reports

D/ District Secretary's Report - Andy Aros

- 1/ Secretary Aros did not discuss his activities during the past year.
- 2/ His minutes and reports he stated were self evident.
- 3/ He expressed disappointment and frustration that most chapters did not respond to his requests for information.
- 4/ He hoped the next District Secretary would be more successful in gathering information and responses.
- 5/ PSP John Grossomanides, Jr. explained that this is a common complaint among the various District Secretaries

E/ Sons of Pericles Report – Supreme President John Ververis

- 1/ Introduced Supreme Governor Andreas Christou and Past Supreme President Rick Pecka
- 2/ Nationally reactivated three chapters
- 3/ There are now 3 total official Sons of Pericles Districts
- 4/ Optimistically local chapters will be reactivated
- 5/ The Sons of Pericles are very active in hosting and participating in various athletic activities and tournaments
- 5/ Sons of Pericles participate in both their own and AHEPA family fund raisers.
- 6/ Most recent District Fund Raiser support was assisting at the “Nite at the Races”

III/ Supreme Lodge Officers

A/ Supreme Vice President Philip Frangos

Topics from his address included:

- 1/ Most grateful for the leadership and guidance given by Past Supreme President John Grossomanides, Jr. His actions set a very high standard for future Supreme Lodge Officers
- 2/ Congressional Hill Day was successful. We must continue to improve the relationship between AHEPA members and their Congressional Representatives.

3/ Praised AHEPA's programs some of which are: Scholarship Programs, Cooley's Anemia, Heart Program, Support for Relief for Greece

4/ AHEPA Membership

a/ To retain and recruit new members we must have relevance, involvement, and articulate our mission.

b/ Allow local chapter talent to excel at what they do

c/ Groom younger members for positions of leadership.

5/ Publicize the activities of AHEPA "Do Not Hide Under a Rock"

B/ Supreme Treasurer Andrew Zachariades

Topics from his address included:

1/ District Conventions support local chapters assisting them solve common issues.

2/ Use of electronic media for communication are not as successful as face to face discussions. Recommended increased use of the telephone.

3/ Thanked Supreme Governor Nick Nikas for his service and would like him to remain as liaison between District Chapters and Supreme Lodge.

4/ Improve contact between District and Congressional Delegation using face to face discussions, selecting the proper time to social and when to conduct business.

C/ Supreme Governor Nick Nikas

Topics from his address included:

1/ Members have the dual role of serving their local community and following Supreme Lodge directives.

2/ Inappropriate for local chapters to have different goals that from those of National Headquarters.

3/ Apostoli

a/ \$10,000 per month is spent on food packages for Greece

b/ Supreme Lodge is requesting each member give \$12 to keep the food program viable.

c/ Stated this is not a tax but a plea for help

4/ To increase a chapter's membership by one person is often a very ambitious program.

5/ Hellenic History Tournament is quickly approaching, teams should be in place by June 30, 2014. Already 3 teams have committed to the Tournament.

D/ Supreme Counselor Greg Stamos

1/ Often requests for assistance should actually be decided at the Chapter or District level.

2/ As a member of the Athletic Hall of Fame Committee he was proud to announce the Harry Agganis Award for 2013 went to retired professional football player Nikos Koutouvides whose father is a member of the New Britain Chapter.

3/ Six Scholar Athletic Scholarships are to be awarded. There are 40 applicants for the six scholarships.

IV/ Convention Committee Reports and Recommendations

A/ Finance and Budget Committee

- 1/ With a possible reduction in total District Membership, proposed income derived from the District Per Capita Tax should be reduced.
- 2/ Treasurer Melonopoulos agreed to the reduction.
- 3/ Other minor reductions in possible income were recommended
- 4/ George Scarveles moved the budget with recommended changes be approved.

Motion Passed

B/ Hellenic Affairs – George Rados, PDG

- 1/ Requested every chapters help
- 2/ If AHEPA is to be the voice of Greek-Americans, we need to raise awareness of work we do within our communities.
- 3/ We need to increase our participation on state level as well.
- 4/ The American public must be informed as to who we are and what we do in our communities.

C/ AHEPA Housing – George Anagnostos, PSS

- 1/ The former 202 Program is no longer in place
- 2/ There exists the possibility of purchasing former 202 Programs
- 3/ Current new programs are both administrative nightmares and in a state of flux.
- 4/ The possible evolvement into assisted living programs, can become expensive to operate, as the people living in the units need more medical help.

D/ Yankee District News

- 1/ Treasurer John Melonopoulos, also acting as Financial Advisor to the Yankee District News has greatly reduced its operating deficit
- 2/ It is projected that next year the YDN will be self supporting. This will occur if the chapters sell their ads.
- 3/ A committee has been organized to supervise publication of the YDN.

E/ Legislation

Moved by PSP John Grossomanides, Jr. that no legislation be introduced at this time. Seconded by Ernest Pool PDG. Motion Passed

V/ Election of New District Lodge Officers

A/ District Governor

PDG Jack Isaac nominated Alex Boutsoulis
Seconded by PDG George Rados
Nominations were closed
Convention Secretary was instructed to cast 1 vote for Alex Boutsoulis for District Governor
2014 District Governor is Alex Boutsoulis

B/ District Lt. Governor

Alex Boutsoulis nominated Demetrius Tasoulas
Seconded PDG George Rados
Nominations were closed
Convention Secretary was instructed to cast 1 vote for Demetrius Tasoulas for Lt. Governor
2014 District Lt. Governor is Demetrius Tasoulas

C/ District Treasurer

PDG Emmanuel Moshovos nominated John Melonopoulos

Seconded PDG George Scarveles

Nominations were closed

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

District Treasurer

2014 District Treasurer is John Melonopoulos

D/ District Secretary

PDG Demetrius Tasoulas nominated Gregory Simones

Seconded PDG Jack Isaac

Nominations were closed

Convention Secretary was instructed to cast 1 vote for Gregory Simones for

District Secretary

2014 District Secretary is Gregory Simones

E/ District Governor appointed the following District Lodge Officers:

District Warden – John Ververis

Sons of Pericles Advisor – Pick Pecka

Hellenic Affairs – George Rados

F/ PDG Jack Isaac succeeds PDG Emmanuel Moshovos as District Advisor

G/ Installation of District Lodge

Supreme Vice President Philip Frangos, Supreme Treasurer Andrew Zachariades,

Supreme Governor Nick Nikas and PSP John Grossomanides Jr. swore in the

New District Lodge Officers, Except for the District Governor who would be

sworn in at the District Banquet

VI/ Good of the Order

PDG Jack Isaac proposed that 1/2 of the money the District Lodge received from the “Nite At The Races” be given to Apostoli. The members present decided the decision should be made by the new District Lodge.

VI/ District Awards

Announced by PDG Jack Isaac

AHEPAN of the Year – Emmanuel Moshovos

Hellene of the Year – George Rados

Chapter of the Year – Norwich #110

Motion to Adjourn made by George Scarveles

Seconded by George Rados Motion Passed

Meeting Adjourned 1:20 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew Aros

Convention Secretary

MEMBERS PRESENT

Philip Frangos, Supreme Vice President
Andrew Zacharides, Supreme Treasurer
Nicholas Nikas, Supreme Governor
Greg Stamos, Supreme Counselor
Jack Isaac, District Governor
Alex Boutsioulis, Lt Governor
John Melonopoulos, District Treasurer
Andrew Aros, District Secretary
George Rados, Hellenic Affairs
Rick Pecka, District Warden
John Ververis, Sons of Pericles Advisor – Sons of Pericles Supreme President
Demetrius Tasoulas, District Marshall
Emmanuel Moshovos, District Advisor
George Anagnostos, PSS, Convention Chairperson
Andreas Christou, Sons of Pericles Supreme Governor
Peter Argiros
Jerry Copsinis
Anthony Drakes
George Grossomanides
John Grossomanides, Sr.
John Grossomanides, Jr.
Steve Jennings
Paul Matsikas
Michael T. Michael
Anthony Neigel
Dick Pecka
Ernest Pool PDG
George Scarveles
Gregory Simones
Michael Sisak

SONS OF PERICLES PRESENT

George Tinios
Niko Kotsaftis
David Gagas