

AHEPA
District 7 Spring Conference
Bridgeport, CT

April 25, 2009

On April 25, 2009, District 7 held its Spring Conference in Bridgeport, CT at Holy Trinity Church. 34 Ahepans attended representing 10 chapters.

The conference began at 10:20 a.m. with welcoming remarks from Brother Bochanis. Governor Nicholas Nikas gave his opening remarks and introductions.

Lt. Governor Emmanuel Moshovos spoke about the status of the District Scholarship Program. He reported that 11 applications for scholarships were submitted.

Daughters of Penelope Governor Donna Rados spoke regarding how the District can help support the Daughters. She set as a goal having a Daughters chapter in every Ahepan chapter city. She gave the history of the New Britain Daughters of Penelope chapter and how it was reactivated.

Governor Nikas then went over plans for the District Convention which will be held in Mansfield, Massachusetts at the Holiday Inn from June 5-7, 2009. Different packages were described as well as important deadlines and procedures to be followed. The Governor also went over some of the items to be voted upon if they are to become part of the By-Laws.

The Hellenic History Trophy update was given by Governor Nikas. He explained how the contest would function and what each chapter's responsibilities would be.

Brother Sfinarolakis gave an update of plans for the New York City parade and encouraged members to join those already planning to attend.

Brother Grossomanides described the current state of the Yankee News publications, including costs, content and distribution. He asked for suggestions to improve it and the response was enthusiastic and supportive of his work. He also went over each of the chapter's allotment of delegates for the National Convention.

Governor Nikas then presented strategies to give people reasons for joining the AHEPA. He proposed a Value Proposition based on the AHEPA mission statement. These were designed to give chapters methods to increase membership.

Some chapter representatives spoke about strategies they have used to increase membership. Stamford spoke about how they have made several presentations each year to their community and that these stimulated interest in the AHEPA. It was suggested that smaller chapters might join together in making presentations to alleviate the costs. They also might do a dinner where they can invite selected potential members.

The Governor strongly encouraged members who have a relationship with members of congress from Connecticut to encourage them to join the Hellenic Caucus to promote Hellenism and Greek causes. He pointed out that none of our congressmen are members and compared that to the great successes being made in Rhode Island.

A For the Good of the Order discussion then took place - Various members gave suggestions as to how membership may be increased.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully,

Jack Isaac
Secretary, District 7