

74TH AHEPA FAMILY
DELTA DISTRICT 16 CONVENTION



June 30 - July 2, 2005
San Antonio, Texas



Order of AHEPA

DELTA DISTRICT 16

74th ANNUAL DISTRICT CONVENTION



June 30 – July 3
Hyatt Regency

John Georgeiafandis
District Governor



**74th AHEPA
DELTA DISTRICT 16 CONVENTION**
June 30 – July 3, 2005
Hyatt Regency Hotel
San Antonio, Texas

CONVENTION AGENDA

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Registration	1:00 PM to 6:00 PM
River Cruise	5:30 PM
Hospitality Room	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Friday, July 1, 2005

Hospitality Room	7:00 AM to 8:30 AM
Registration	9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Convention Opening	1:00 PM
Business Meeting – AHEPA & DOP	2:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Fiesta Night

Reception	6:00 PM
Buffet	7:00 PM
Dancing	9:00 PM

Saturday, July 2, 2005

Past District Governor's Breakfast	7:00 AM
Hospitality Room	7:00 AM to 9:00 AM
Business Meeting – AHEPA & DOP	9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
National Penelope Luncheon	11:30 AM to 1:30 AM
Business Meeting – AHEPA & DOP	2:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Grand Banquet

Reception	6:00 PM
Dinner	7:00 PM
Dancing	9:00 PM

Sunday, July 3, 2005

Church Service, St Sophia's	10:00 AM
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MINUTES OF THE 74TH AHEPA FAMILY DELTA DISTRICT 16 CONVENTION

June 30 – July 3, 2005
SAN ANTONIO, TX

Friday 7/1/2005

The Joint Convention opened at 1:15PM by Brother Paul Fafoutakis , Co-Chairman of the Convention. Brother Jim Verges gave the invocation and District Governor John Gerogiafandis was introduced. Governor Georgiandis introduced the Supreme/Grand Lodge Officers: Ike Goulas (Supreme Secretary), Nick Dixie (Supreme Governor), and Alex Katsafanis (National Board of Directors) as well as his District Lodge officers. Governor Georgiandis also introduced Daughters of Penelope District Governor Tina Batmanis, who introduced Karen Stamatiades (Grand Governor) and her District Lodge officers.

The president of the San Antonio Chapter, Costa Sgagias welcomed all in attendance and wished everybody good deliberations, fun, and fellowship.

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 PM. Present were 25 voting members and Supreme Secretary Ike Goulas and Supreme Board member Alex Katsafanis.

Ernie Papavasiliou is voted Convention Chair. Jim Verges is voted Convention Vice Chair. John Sempeles is voted Convention Secretary.

Committee appointments:

Chair appoints Alex Katsafanas Parliamentarian.

Chair appoints Nicholas Checkles Legislative Resolution chairman.

Chair appoints Anthony Kouzounis to Convention City chairman.

Chair appoints James Petheriotes Grievances chairman.

Chair appoints Steve G. Kirkikis Budget and Finance chairman.

Jim Verges asked to vote Jim Petheriotes as Honorary Convention Chairman. Accepted.

Brother Papavasiliou introduced Supreme Secretary Ike Gulas. Secretary Gulas gave a short speech on national elections. He's running for Supreme Vice President. Also talked about his committee on Cooley's Anemia.

Brother Papavasiliou asked for Chapter reports to be given:

Chapter Report for Shreveport given by Alex Booras (see attached). Accepted by Chair.

Chapter Report for Fort Worth given by John Sempeles (see attached). Accepted by Chair.

Chapter Report for Dallas given by Nick Dixie (see attached). Accepted by Chair.

District Secretary John Sempeles read the minutes from the 2004 Convention. (See attached). Chair moves to accept minutes. No objections.

District Secretary Kirkikis gave General Fund and Scholarship report (see attached). Brother Kirkikis stated that due to Ford Company's not doing well in automotive industry, we may lose our money in the Ford Motor Credit account.

Dr. Kirkikis also mentioned that for the scholarship fund, there were 20 applicants; one was ineligible, another's name was submitted for the Ahepa National Scholarship and sent to Headquarters. This is 8 more than the 11 candidates in previous years.

Motion: Dr. Kirkikis moved that convention appropriate \$8000.00 more from Scholarship Fund in addition to \$10,000.00 already allotted for this year. Dr. Patzakis seconded the motion.

Discussion: Dr. Kirkikis mentioned this is first year that we've had so many qualified applicants. One was not accepted due to direct candidate's direct relative not in AHEPA. Brother Jimmy Petheriotes asked if we are receiving any results from scholarships-are they becoming Ahepans or Daughters? Dr. Kirkikis has not done any follow up and asked the Convention floor for anyone that had any statistics on this matter.

Governor Georgiafandis mentioned Chapter presidents have to take the first step and make sure the first line relatives are coming to meetings.

Alex Booras brought up that in Shreveport regulations, parents have to come to 3 meetings per year, kids come to some of the meetings.

Vote: Motion to appropriate \$8000.00 more for 8 extra scholarship applicants passed.

Motion: Dr. Patzakis moved to accept General Fund report and Scholarship report. Brother Sempeles seconded.

Vote: Motion passes.

Brother Kouzounis asked what are we going to do about the Ford account. Dr. Kirkikis has talked to brokers; they give differing opinions. Not sure what to do. He needs to think about it.

Tom Pearson says we should just cut our loses (we'll lose \$2000.00 face value) and take out money rather than hold it and lose all of account (\$10,000.00).

Dr. Kirkikis will take it into consideration-he agrees with the thinking though.

Chairman Papavasiliou discussed his Ad-hoc scholarship committee and gave his report to the Secretary so that it will be part of the minutes of the Convention. (See attached reports)

Discussions with Dr. Kirkikis. He said he could look into getting federal funds for technical training (example: school in Shreveport teaching aircraft mechanics is eligible for federal funds).

Brother Papavasiliou stated that he will have a new Ad Hoc Scholarship committee report by the first Fall Lodge meeting.

On a related note: Dr. Kirkikis mentioned in 3 weeks the LABI (Louisiana Association of Business and Industry) will have a meeting to discuss people who have lost jobs due to injuries and are supplied training for new jobs.

Chairman Papvasiliou opened the floor for more Chapter reports:

Chapter report for Houston given by Jim Verges (see attached). Accepted by Chair.

Brother Jim Petheriotes asked the Convention floor to remember the following Houston members that passed on during the last year:

Fred Iconos, Steve Eleniss, Gus Mylonas, Chris Lum, Jimmy Kanakides

Chapter report San Antonio given by Costa Sgagias (see attached). Accepted by Chair.

Chapter report New Orleans given by Alex Booras (see attached). Accepted by Chair.

Convention Vice Chairman Jim Verges moved for recess. Pete Kaldis seconded. Motion passed. Session comes to recess at 3:15 PM.

Saturday Morning 7/2/2005

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:25 AM. Approximately 21 voting members were present, in addition to Supreme Secretary Ike Gulas and Supreme Governor Board Member Alex Katsafanis.

Chapter Reports:

Chapter report for Clear Lake given by George Zacharias (see attached). Accepted by Chair.

Issue brought up by brother Zacharias that efforts needed to get Galveston Chapter back into District/National AHEPA. Anthony Kouzounis has attended events with the Galveston brothers; has found interest in keeping it alive (pay dues to District and National). He wants to encourage the Galveston members who want to sign on as Clear Lake Chapter members to do so.

Governor Georgiandis mentioned that brother Natskee (president of Galveston) has been hostile in their conversations.

Galveston was last eligible 3 years ago at New York convention but not since. A question was raised on floor as to how many members in Galveston want to join Clear Lake? Brother Kouzounis believes 6. Dr. Kirkikis recommended that the District Governor send letters to all Galveston chapter members to encourage them to reapply and keep us informed. Supreme secretary asked if anyone from National has contacted them. Brother Kouzounis didn't think so.

District Lodge Officers Reports

Treasurer's Budget report was given by Dr. Steve Kirkikis (see attached)

Motion: Dr. Kirkikis moved to accept report. Governor Georgiandis seconded.

Discussion: \$7 stipend for Skepsou is accepted if report is accepted. Jim Verges wrote an article that was greatly cut down on wordage. He doesn't feel stipend represents the quality he wants. Brother Verges moved to cut stipend down to \$2. Dr. Kirkikis says they don't need to motion. Can amend the Skepsou budget later.

The District Secretary's Report was given by John Sempeles. (see attached)

The District Lt. Governor's Report was given by Dr. Nick Patzakis. (see attached)

The District Governor's Report was given by John Georgiandis.

Summary: 12 active Chapters - but problems with visitation; it's a wide district to travel. 589 members paid up. They are doing well on scholarships. Governor Georgiandis acknowledges there are problems with the Skepsou, but reminded everyone that it is volunteer work. The District website is doing great thanks to Bro. Nick Lambron.

District Convention Report:

Given by Governor John Georgiandis. For 2006, we don't have a site (Shreveport in 2007). Next year is our 75th anniversary. It has been mentioned to get a cruise (3-4 days). John had Anthony Kouzounis look into it. Brother Kouzounis reported that there are Gulf of Mexico cruises available on June 8th (out of Galveston, New Orleans). This will be something to motivate members to attend. The cruise lines are Carnival and Norwegian; they will be going to Cazamel, Mexico. There is also a 7 day cruise available (9 ports). Need to negotiate with cruise lines through agents. Will do depending on Convention vote.

Available options:

4 day cruise for \$330/person to \$730 (depending on suite)

5 day cruise for \$330/person to \$830 (depending on suite)

7 day cruise for \$400/person to \$1200 (depending on suite)

Prices can fluctuate (depending on season, how early we book, and how many people they already have booked).

There will be no registration fee. It will be promoted by District Lodge.

Brother Nick Vrettos says give it to members to discuss. Nick Checkles says have resolution to accept.

Resolutions Report:

Given by brother Nick Checkles.

1) Be it resolved that :

Whereas, the Chinese government is pursuing economic policies that are harming U.S. companies and the U.S. economy by unfair trade policies, unfair labor, (delete comma) practices, and illegal lobbying and the other harmful economic actions,

Be It Resolved that the U.S. Congress take whatever steps are necessary to force them to cease and desist. This 74th Ahepa District Convention directs our District 16 Lodge to send this resolution as soon as possible to all the members of Congress in District 16 and send this resolution to the larger newspapers and news media in

District 16 and refer this Resolution to the Resolution Committee of the Ahepa National Convention to be held in Boston in July 2005.

Pros - Dr. Kirkikis feels the communist Chinese government is invading the U.S. economy thereby hurting our AHEPA budget, and has an economic policy that is contrary to American principles. We should contact our members of Congress and express our feelings.

Con - brother Petheriotes recommended District resolution should be given to Resolutions Committee in National AHEPA; they have more power. Brother Petheriotes moved to amend to national.

(Dr. Kirkikis feels issue would get lost at national)

Jack Lymberry concurred with Dr. Kirkikis. Jim Verges asked why not have both District and National take up resolution. Dr. Kirkikis agreed.

Dr. Kirkikis amended his motion to include National resolution. Jack Lymberry seconded

Vote: Motion passed.

2) Be it resolved that:

For the election of officers at the board and the district level that AHEPA follow and accept a natural progression of the Secretary becoming VP, the VP becoming President and at the district level, Secretary becoming Lt. Governor and the Lt. Governor becoming Governor.

Pro: Dr. Kirkikis says it's a noble effort but it is against the by-laws. Dr. Kirkikis motions to table the resolution. Jim Verges seconds.

Vote: Motion passes. Resolution tabled.

3) Be it resolved that:

The Convention consider a change of venue for the next district convention and allow the District Lodge to host the meeting aboard a cruise ship departing from Galveston. Dr. Kirkikis agrees with the motion but mentions that it should be still open to used of land based location if someone offers to host.

Dr. Patzakis seconds.

Vote: Motion passes.

4) Be it resolved that:

The District Lodge, in consultation with the National Board of Directors and the national officers, consider the feasibility and pros and cons of having bi-annual rather than annual conventions with the National and District occurring on alternating years.

Brother Petheriotes said that this meant we have to change constitution. Dr. Kirkikis said we can study it. Supreme Secretary Gulas said its been discussed in National but feels it would hurt AHEPA.

Brother Jim Verges motioned to table the resolution. Dr. Kirkikis seconded.

Vote: Motion passed.

5) Be it resolved that:

At all future District conventions the registration fee will not exceed \$110 unless approved by District Lodge.

Chairman Papavasiliou said this has been a problem since 1968: Costs going up and up, but he does not feel that \$110 will be enough to get the job done.

Governor Georgiafandis feels it would handicap convention and is not fair.

Dr. Kirkikis agrees. It is not well defined what \$110 will buy. The costs keep going up. He recommended that experienced convention runners get together and come up with rules.

Brother George Zacharias mentioned that some days are prohibitive for attendance by the working young (like Fridays). Don't make members pay for days they are not present-make registration ala carte.

Brother Pete Kaldis said it is very hard to set a price for a convention (with all late requests, extra charges). He said get charges recorded early after last convention. Chairman Papavasiliou recommended Dr. Kirkikis motion for a committee to be created to come up with convention rules, equally made up of (3 each) Daughters and Ahepans. It should include the Governors and should submit a report.

Gov. Georgiafandis said to save time, let the Lodges organize it. District Governors can appoint members.

Board member Katsafanas of Supreme Governors mentions that we shouldn't tie up chapters with ala carte registration. Don't even consider it.

Dr. Kirkikis moved to create conventions committee. Dr. Patzakis seconded.

Vote: Motion passed.

6) Be it resolved that:

A. for a student to receive a district scholarship, his/her AHEPA or DOP sponsor must be in attendance at the convention at which it is given.

B. For a student's application for a district scholarship to be signed by the president and secretary of the chapter -the students AHEPA or DOP sponsor must have attended 25% of the chapter meetings.

Brother Petheriotes recommended to table the issue. Brother Emil Pappas seconded. Governor Georgiafandis was in favor of option B. Brother Kouzounis recommended putting condition in the application that the member sponsor shows up to a certain number meetings in the year.

Dr. Kirkikis thinks this is a good idea, but he is worried about enforcement. You have to rely on documentation and honesty by Chapter, but some lie.

Brother Verges asked what active member's requirements of attendance. He thinks it's unfair to mandate.

Brother Vrettos said leave it to the student's ability, not the attendance of sponsor.

Vote: Motion to table passes (24 yeas, 1 nay).

7) Be it resolved that:

The chapters of District 16 publicly recognize founding fathers of the Order of AHEPA and the first chapter (founded on 7/27/1922) and all other deceased members. This to be done on the last Thursday of July each year.

Concern was brought up that if in July, no one is around to conduct it. Dr. Kirkikis would like to defer for discussion. Governor Georgiafandis seconded.

Chairman reintroduced resolution without July date.

Vote: All in favor of resolution, one against.

Report by Supreme Governor Nick Dixie.

Brother Dixie thanks brothers Paul Fafoutakis and Costa Sgagias for organizing San Antonio convention. He mentioned the National Education project, HUD, and Journey to Greece. Brother Dixie saluted John Georgiafandis for his work as District Governor.

Chairman Papavasiliou called for recess. Governor Georgiafandis seconded.

Vote: Motion passed.

Saturday Afternoon 7/2/2005

Joint AHEPA/Daughters session started at 2:45 PM.

Supreme Secretary Ike Gulas spoke about Cooley's Anemia.

District Governor John Georgiafandis introduces AHEPA District's suggestion for doing a convention in 2006 on a cruise line. Anthony Kouzounis gives his findings. Some discussion: Generally people like the idea. Majority want 5 days as opposed to 7 days. Kouzounis said that we can try to offer both. Brother Petheriotes said to send a letter to let members in the summer determine the number of participants.

Motion made to approve the cruise.

Vote: It passed with only one nay.

Jean Padsokous presented Supreme Secretary Ike Gulas with a check for Colley's Anemia from the Daughters of Penelope.

AHEPA afternoon session started at 2:43PM. 22 voting members were present, in addition to Supreme Secretary Ike Gulas and Supreme Governor Board member Alex Katsafanis.

Chairman Papavasiliou said that AHEPA needs to instruct Daughters in charge of Skepsou (Cathy Paraschos) to email the SKEPSOU to those who have supplied emails. Brother Tom Pearson asked if we can just put it up on the AHEPA District 16 website (www.ahepad16.org). We will look into.

Gov. Georgiandis said that we need to contact old Chapters to assign people to turn in SKEPSOU report and Cathy Paraschos will set up the deadline date.

SKEPSOU propose budget given by Dr. Steve Kirkikis. (see attached)
Proposed 2005-2006 budget, with 550 members will have expense of \$4 per capita, and a budget of \$1,100.00 per issue, with 2 issues for \$2200.00 total.
Proposed budget seconded by Governor Georgiandis.

Jim Verges spoke against. He wanted assurance that SKEPSOU will have more content and less pictures. We need to look at the cost savings on internet, e-mail. Dr. Kirkikis recommended proof reading articles for content. He asked if Jim was willing to accept the proposed budget if that caveat is in place. Jim agreed but also wanted email/web options pursued.

Chairman Papavasiliou said that this will happen, regardless.

Vote: Budget passed.

Unfinished Business

Brother Nick Vrettos discussed his current legal issues and solicited the support of AHEPA.

Governor Georgiandis would like to re-open the budget to increase travel stipends for lodge officers (not Governor)-more than \$300.00/year.

Brother Nick Dixie said he thinks we can afford it.

Brother Jim Petheriotes asked how much allotted currently to each officer. The Governor gets \$1000.00, other Lodge members get \$300.00.

Dr. Kirkikis asked where can we get the funds. He thinks maybe \$100 can be made available in the budget.

Chairman Papavasiliou said he will donate \$100.00 of his own money. Brother Petheriotes, Anthony Kouzounis, and Pete Kaldis all gave \$100.00 each. Dr. Kirkikis reported that the district budget can supply \$200.00, making the stipend for the Lodge members to \$500.00.

Motion: Dr. Kirkikis moved to amend the budget to supply \$200.00 to increase travel stipends for Lodge members other than Governor. Governor Georgiandis seconded.

Vote: Motion passed

District Elections:

Room had 22 voting members voting strength.

District Governor

Brother Alex Booras nominated John Georgiafandis for District Governor. Nick Dixie seconded. Brother Jim Verges nominated Dr. Nick Patzakis. Dr. Patzakis declined the nomination. Brother Pappas moved to accept nomination by acclimation. Brother Kouzounis seconded. Motion passed (21 yeas, 1 nay).

Lieutenant Governor

Brother Jim Verges nominated Pete Kaldis for Lieutenant Governor. Anthony Kouzounis seconded. Brother Jack Lymberry nominated Dr. Nick Patzakis. Brother James Anthanasion seconded. Vote was by secret ballot-collected by Stratos Batmanis, and Brother Ike Gulas counted the votes. Final vote: Dr. Patzakis - 9 votes. Pete Kaldis - 13 votes. Brother Kaldis was elected.

District Secretary

Brother Nick Dixie nominated John Sempeles by acclimation. Emile Pappas seconded. All in favor. Elected by acclimation.

District Treasurer

Brother Patzakis nominated Steve Kirkikis for District Treasurer. Governor Georgiafandis seconded. Governor Georgiafandis moved to close the vote. Alex Booras seconded. Elected by acclimation.

District Warden

Brother Ramos nominated James Verges for District Warden. Nick Vrettos seconded. Brother Kouzounis nominated Paul Fafoutakis. Emil Pappas seconded. Vote was by secret ballot-collected by Stratos Batmanis. Brother Ike Gulas counted. Final vote: Jim Verges - 7 votes. Paul Fafoutakis - 14 votes. Brother Fafoutakis was elected.

Scholarship Board/ Chairman (3 year post)

Combined vote. Governor Georgiafandis nominated Dr. Steve Kirkikis. Dr. Patzakis seconded. Vote carried.

Jim Verges asked about other nominations.

The newly elected officers were sworn in by Supreme Secretary Ike Goulas.

Good of the Order

Jim Verges was hoping for natural progression of officers in election. He nominated both Pete Kaldis and Dr. Patzakis not to compete, and was hoping both would achieve an office.

Grievances Report

Brother Jim Petheriotes reported no grievances.

Supreme Governor Board member Alex Katsafanas commended Ernie Papavasiliou for his work as Convention Chairman.

Supreme Secretary Ike Gulas asked for District's vote for Vice President of AHEPA National.

Convention Chairman Papavasiliou thanked San Antonio for the excellent job they did hosting the Convention.

Dr. Steve Kirkikis moved to adjourn the Convention sine die. Dr. Patzakis seconded. Motion passed.