

AHEPA DISTRICT 16  
LODGE MEETING  
OCTOBER 15, 2005  
J.W. MARRIOT HOTEL  
HOUSTON, TX

Members in Attendance: John Georgiandis, Pete Kaldis, Dr. Steve Kirkikis, John Sempeles, Paul Fafoutakis, Ernie Papvasiliou. Guests: Supreme President Gus James, Supreme Governor Anthony Kouzounis, and Supreme Secretary of Sons of Pericles.

Meeting called to order by District Governor John Georgiandis at 7:50 AM. A moment of silence was held.

Secretary Report by John Sempeles: June District Conventions meeting minutes summarized. Report approved as read.  
No correspondence.

Treasurers Report by Dr. Steve Kirkikis:  
Scholarship Fund (through Oct. 12th) attached.  
Discussed payment of Chapter dues. There is the concern that, though chapters are supposed to send two checks: one to district and one to national. The chapters are withholding .  
Motion to accept report by Dr. Kirkikis. Pete Kaldis seconds. Report passes.

Old Business:

Ernie Papvasiliou mentions the Education Scholarship. Convention resolution was to get other sources of revenue for vocational scholarship. Ernie is looking into the Federal Register to get companies to supply money. Its very complex and expensive, but he will continue to do research.

New Business:

Anthony Kousounis reports on the Hurricane Katrina Fund. His committee has contacted all chapters; many have given independently. Approximately \$43-45,000 has been collected in the National Headquarters Fund. John Georgiandis mentions that the Shreveport chapter has a check but is waiting to see how the money is distributed. Anthony Kouzounis states that there are three different allocations for the fund: A third going to Unicef, a third going to IOCC, and another third going to New Orleans directly.

Dr. Kirkikis has a problem with the majority of the fund going elsewhere. He feels the bigger percentage should go to New Orleans. He is concerned we are not giving directly to the Greek community.

Anthony mentions that in New Orleans, Father Anthony Stratus is still determining the damage to the community. They are making a committee to determine how funds are distributed, made up of Sandy Buzon, Father Anthony, Nick Moustoukis.

President Gus James is asked about Nationals position: President James didn't want to micromanage the Katrina Committee. He feels the money needs to go to various areas, not just New Orleans. He may allow restricted funds—ones earmarked to specific victims. There was also difficulty with not being on-site to access the damage site. President James wants to help the victims, but we need balance. Currently have checks with Katrina listed. May expand to Rita if amounts increase, but right now the level of giving is too low. He realizes that there are fears the money will not be used wisely or ethically.

Dr. Kirkikis asks if UNICEF money will go to the Katrina victims. He would like confirmation and/or documentation. John Tsokrios will organize this fund in New Orleans. The IOCC will go partially to New Orleans—it is being organized by the Metropolitan of Atlanta.

New Orleans will track the money they receive. Dr. Kirkikis feels that distributing money through three different organizations, when the money will eventually go to the same place, is redundant. President James mentions that ~2000 emails were sent out requesting the specific names of individuals in need and never got a response.

Report by national president of Son of Pericles (Rick Pecka)—  
They are attempting to restart the Sons of Pericles in District 16. Distance between district locations is a problem. Trying to have meetings to start up the sons. Major incentives are scholarship (district awarded 18 last year). Can try to promote athletics (used to be a big draw here) like in Northeast.  
John Sempeles will be the Districts liason with the National Sons organization.  
Chris Sampras will be our point of contact.

Ernie Papavasiliou mentions that scholarships are currently not working. The history is that the member's family gets the funds and then you don't hear from them again. Ernie feels it is the members and parents responsibility.

John Georgiandis also feels we don't have the youth numbers. Even in Dallas its low. He feels we need good adult leaders.

2006 Convention Cruise Report (see attached):

Anthony Kouzounis reports that the plan is to go on the 4-day cruise with Carnival (two boats available, the Elation and the Ecstasy). Will be booked through Homeric Tours. The date, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, is a popular weekend so the booking and price will be difficult. By Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> we'll need an upfront commitment of \$30/person. By April 17<sup>th</sup>, need the full payment.

Membership – report by John Georgiandis (attached)

Many of the national dues unpaid through 2005. Need Houston, Little Rock, and Clear Lake chapters to catch up. Also we are not receiving \$7 district dues from Chapters.

John Georgiafandis is assigning District officers to individual chapters, to ask about their current rolls of membership.

AHEPA membership drive in Euless, TX

Reported on by John Sempeles. The possibility of starting up a chapter was discussed, but at this time seems more possible to get new members to join Fort Worth and Dallas chapters from Euless.

District President visit with Little Rock chapter is being planned.

Ernie asks about email for Skepsou distribution. John Georgiafandis says we'll do what we can. He's leaving it to Tina Batmanis and Kathy Parachos to organize. Ernie is concerned over their non-responsiveness. Ernie suggests we give Tina a list of email addresses for them to send the Skepsou out to. Ernie will contact Tina and Kathy.

Good of the Order:

Dr. Kirkikis is concerned about potential bankruptcy of GMC and the fall of Ford stock. He feels we should write personal letters to Congress.

Ernie mentions there has been almost no follow up on Convention resolutions. Dr. Kirkikis says it is up to the District Governor to execute resolutions. He feels letters need to be sent out to answer first resolution of denouncing communist China to Congressional leaders. We can get signatures from members and send on to senators of Texas and Arkansas.

Governor Georgiafandis thanks the Lodge officers for their service and thanks Houston for holding the conference.

Pete Kaldis motions to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Kirkikis seconds. Motion passes.