



## **AHEPA Delta District 16 District Lodge Meeting Minutes**

January 12, 2008

At the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Complex  
Dallas, Texas

**Called to Order:** At approximately 12:40 p.m.

**Members in Attendance:** DG John Sempeles, DLG Costa Sgagias, DS Nick Kaffes, and DW Chris Ramas. Also present were District Advisor Pete Kaldis, Brothers John Boyd and Nick Dixie of the Dallas Chapter, and Jim Salas of San Antonio.

The **minutes** of the previous District Lodge meeting, September 29, 2007, in Houston, TX, were read by DS Nick Kaffes. DW Chris Ramas moved to approve them, DLG Costa Sgagias seconded, approved unanimously.

**Communications:** DG John Sempeles referred to communications from AHEPA Headquarters that the deadline for membership dues has been extended to January 31, 2008. He also mentioned the AHEPA Academy for high school juniors in the Washington, D.C., area. There is a requirement for a GPA in the area of 3.5 to 4.0; pamphlet available.

**Treasurer's Report:** DT Dr. Steve Kirkikis had submitted the Treasurer's report (attached). There were a couple of clarifications: the regular disbursements were corrected back to a total of \$1500, as usual. Also, a provision of \$250 for the National Convention ad. DLG Costa Sgagias moved to approve the Treasurer's report with these corrections, DG John Sempeles seconded, approved unanimously.

**Old Business:** Past DG Pete Kaldis reported that the final numbers for Greek fire relief from the District have reached \$18,500. This brings District 16 to second place in the AHEPA domain. The donated items were forwarded to IOCC. DG John Sempeles expressed appreciation for Brother Pete's leadership in this effort. A plaque will be presented to him at the next District Convention.

**Membership Drive:** DG John Sempeles reported that District's membership grew by 6% in 2007. He also presented the District 16 membership printout as prepared by AHEPA headquarters.

**National Projects:** DG John Sempeles reminded the Lodge to continue supporting the national Cooley's Anemia fundraising effort through coin-collecting cans, etc.

**Upcoming District Convention, 2008:** Brothers John Boyd and Nick Dixie of Dallas reported to the District Lodge on the preparations for the Dallas/Fort Worth Convention. The cost of a band and DJ is projected to be between \$4,300 and \$8,000, depending on hiring a local band or a national one. There is the possibility of District 15 (Kansas and Oklahoma) joining our Convention. The program is:

Thursday: Welcome Night  
Friday: Greek Night  
Saturday: Banquet, Dance  
Sunday: Coffee, Reception

DG John Sempeles encouraged all Chapters to buy ads in the District Convention album, one-page for \$150, or, at least, one-half-page for \$90. He also mentioned workshops for AHEPAns and Chapter officers at the Convention. A basketball game is being organized for Friday afternoon.

The Lodge discussed the percentages of revenues to the District Lodge: they are supposed to be 6% of any District Convention net revenue, including the album.

**2009 District Convention:** DG John Sempeles stated that New Orleans and Little Rock do not appear to be good candidates for convention cities in 2009. It may be that the best option is a cruise or a convention at a resort, organized by the District Lodge. To be discussed with the DOP District Lodge.

**District Banner:** PDG Pete Kaldis will get bids on a banner measuring 3 feet wide by 4 feet tall, hanging on a wall, with the triangular District 16 emblem on it, and the words "Order of AHEPA" along the lower side.

**District Ritual Book:** PDG Pete Kaldis reported that Brother John Papas has been working on the ritual book, but he is currently quite busy with the Houston Rodeo.

**New Business:** Next, the District Lodge discussed the upcoming District Convention agenda. First of all, DLG Costa Sgagias moved that the District Lodge buy a full-page ad in the album, DG John Sempeles seconded, approved unanimously, Brother Costa to design the ad.

Creation of District 16 By-Laws: They will cover Convention income sharing rules, the District Scholarship Fund, the Convention city cycle, Officers' responsibilities, audits, and the website. DLG Costa Sgagias will write the rules and present them to the District Lodge for review. At the District Convention a committee will review the proposed By-Laws and the Convention delegates will then vote on them.

PDG Pete Kaldis reported that AHEPA Supreme President Ike Gulas will be visiting Houston on Sunday, January 13, 2008. The AHEPA Biennial Banquet is scheduled for March 8, 2008.

**Next District Lodge Meeting:** It will take place in San Antonio, TX, on April 5, 2008.

**For the Good of the Order:** Brother Nick Dixie welcomed the District Lodge members to Dallas. DG John Sempeles thanked Brother Dixie for the hospitality provided by the Dallas Chapter.

DG John Sempeles has visited the following Chapters: Fort Worth, Dallas, Shreveport, Austin, Houston, Clear Lake, West Houston, and New Orleans.

The District Lodge was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

## **Joint Meeting with the Daughters of Penelope District Lodge**

DG John Sempeles opened the joint meeting by thanking all the attendees for their presence. The DOP District Lodge members present were DG Barbara Maligas, DLG Sandy Salas, DT Kay Sgagias, and DS Sharon Papadopoulos. Also present were Grand Governor Helen Santire and PDG Penny Vletas.

Brothers Nick Dixie and John Boyd of Dallas reported that the rooms at the District Convention hotel in Dallas are available for \$109 plus taxes. The Convention registration fees will be similar to last year.

There will be a silent auction fundraiser by the DOP at the Convention.

**Skepsou:** The editor to serve a two-year term with an assistant. Regarding Skepsou funding, the DOP will ask Chapters for additional support, with a final decision to be made at the District Convention in Dallas. The deadline for articles is April 7, 2008.

**2009 District Convention:** The idea of a cruise was favorably received by the DOP District Lodge.

**Support for “Journey to Greece”:** There was an extensive discussion on this topic, but no conclusion was reached. The subject will be brought up again at the next District Lodge meeting and the Convention.

DOP DG Barbara Maligas reported that a **DOP workshop** was going to be held on Saturday, January 19, in Houston.

**Next Meeting:** The two District Lodges agreed to have the next meeting in San Antonio on Saturday, April 5, 2008. The joint meeting was then adjourned at about 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Kaffes, DS