Board of Directors Meeting January 13, 2022
Hilton Kansas City Airport Hotel, Kansas City, MO

Call To Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: James O Walmer, Supreme Director Region 3

Welcome: Joseph S Russell, STC

Agenda corrected to reflect correct names of the Chairpersons for the Convention Committee to Les Metcalf and Fraternal Relations to Roberto Sanchez.

Recognition of Guests, Joseph S Russell STC:
1. Christian Moore, Executive Director, DeMolay International
2. William W. Martz, PSTC, Extension Chairperson
3. Donald E. Saylor, PSTC
4. George A Morgan Jr, PSTC
5. J. Eric Becker, PSTC

Presentation from DeMolay International on Extension, Christian Moore, Executive Director:
- Christian handed out paperwork containing information on how DeMolay has expanded internationally. He stated that starting a Forest internationally is 98% the same in another country as in the U.S. International members receive the same the ritual, By-Laws, etc. as all other groups.
- The first thing DeMolay requires is a letter from a recognized Grand Lodge inviting them to work in their jurisdiction. Without the letter, they only have a conversation with the Grand Lodge about how to start the process.
- He recommended that a relationship be established with CMI, The Inter-American Masonic Confederation. Additional information was presented regarding the unique situations in specific countries.
- He explained how some countries are franchised and given autonomous authority. They cannot expand outside their borders. By-Laws and ritual changes still must be approved by DeMolay International.
- Before opening in another country, an attorney should be charged with making sure Tall Cedar emblems, patents, and logos are protected.
- DeMolay International policy is that they only accept payments in US currency. They do everything paperless and mainly accept payments electronically through PayPal or wire transfers.
- They hold training sessions for the new groups, either in-person or on Zoom, enlisting translators when necessary.
- They use the Shrine Pledge rather than the US Pledge at International Sessions.
- Grand Masters of North America publishes a list of recognized Lodges.
- Forty percent of their membership is international.
- He recommends that someone reach out to Shrine International Development Committee. They work closely with DeMolay to establish new groups at the same time.

Christian also explained the Squire Award of Honor, which Tall Cedars now supports. It an award for a young man 9-11 years old who goes to a certain number of his Manor meetings, is a first-line signer of
two petitions, goes to a social event with the sponsoring Chapter, and does a community service event with them. The Squire Award of Honor is a reward for outstanding participation in his Manor to bolster his enthusiasm to become a DeMolay.

Presentation by Joseph S Russell, STC
1. Joe presented an embroidered shirt to each member of the Board.

Scribe/Administrative Report, reported by Robert Hahn, Supreme Scribe:
1. Typed minutes from the December meeting are not available yet but the audio recording is available online.
2. A Zoom meeting is being presented by Groupable tomorrow to introduce the new membership program.
3. Bob reported that the new membership program is ready to be used. Some of the data from the old program did not transfer therefore some clean-up will still need to be done.

Communications, reported by Bob Hahn, Supreme Scribe:
1. A petition has been received from Omar Estrada, a Texas Mason. Bob Hahn made a motion to accept the petition for membership as a Member At Large pending approval from the Grand Lodge of Texas. Motion seconded and carried. A letter will be sent to the Grand Lodge requesting the approval.

Financial Report, reported by Brian Van Scyoc, Supreme Treasurer:
1. Brian is still working on year-end reports.
2. The bank account is carrying a balance of approx. $70,000.00.
3. Al Cass is now the Foundation Chairman but is still listed as an authorizer for the Supreme Forest investments. He will be removed, and Bill Martz will be added as Committee Chairman.
4. Jeff Pauliny will be added an advisory member of the Investment Committee. He will not have authorization to make any changes to the investments unless directed by the Chairperson to do so.

2023 Midwinter Conference, reported by David Manter, SDSTC:
1. The dates are already set and have been previously approved.
2. He has ordered Sapling pyramids. They will have purple tassels because Gerhard has a large inventory of them.
3. Efforts are being made to include families:
   a. The Ladies Luncheon will be a Disney Princess theme with the girls being invited to attend.
   b. Boys will be invited to the Men’s Luncheon. Entertainment is a ventriloquist, with the program geared to the kids.
   c. Kids will be invited to the evening dinner.

2022 Convention, reported by Joseph Russell, STC for Les Metcalf, Chairman:
1. Convention will be held October 6-9, 2022, at the Clarion Hotel in Ocean City, MD. Other details will follow as soon as he receives meal pricing.

2022 Wreath Laying Ceremony, reported by Howard Beardsley, PGTC:
1. The next BOD meeting has been set to be held at the GWMNM on March 12 at 9:00 AM.
2. The brochure provides details about the hotel as well as the GWMNM tour on Wreath Laying Day, March 13. The hotel is within 30 minutes of Mt. Vernon and 10 minutes of the GWMNM and welcomes pets.
3. A local Boy Scout Troop is doing the flag carrying as a service project. A trumpeter and chorus member from local high school chorus are doing the taps ceremony. A motion was made and seconded to offer a $75.00 donation to the trumpeter and chorus member. The motion was amended to add $75.00 for the Boy Scout Troop for a total of $225.00 in donations. Motion carried.
4. Worshipful Masters from five different states will be attending.
5. Meals are available at the Café or the Restaurant.

Foundation Report, reported by Al Cass, Chairman:
1. A Foundation Board meeting was held today. Many programs were reviewed and will be updated or eliminated.
2. The Foundation’s mission of supporting research for Muscular Dystrophy is being reviewed since it is felt those afflicted with a muscular disease would benefit directly if our support were given locally since MDA does not provide direct assistance to individuals.
3. The price of the Bears is being increased to $15.00 due to rising costs.
4. A budget will be generated.
5. A “talk sheet” about ways to make donations is being put together so the Trustees have information which they can present at Forest meetings.
6. The Award Credit and Life Membership programs are being reviewed.
7. Additional Ways to bring the Foundation into the public eye are being researched.

Old Business:
1. Dave Manter spoke with John Shoop about the Gun Raffle. Millersburg Forest No. 125 is taking over the raffle so Supreme Forest no longer will be involved with it. This change eliminates donations to the Special Activities Fund and will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

New Business:
1. Roberto Sanchez, Supreme Historian will be compiling our historical records. He requests permission to do a Second Edition as an extended, updated version of the previous booklet done by Larry DiPietro. Vote not required, permission granted.
2. Roberto Sanchez will do an article for the next Cedar Digest about getting historical information submissions.
3. Dave Manter contacted Better World regarding an online raffle fundraiser. There is no cost to run it and it is an open-ended fundraiser with processing fees are paid by the ticket purchaser. Additional information will be presented at the next Board meeting.
4. The STC, SDSTC and JDSTC will be attending the 100th Anniversary of Rainbow Girls in Oklahoma in July.
5. We will continue to follow Covid edicts put out by the respective Grand Masters, at the Supreme Tall Cedar’s discretion.
6. Participation in the membership program is required by all Forests. We are available to answer any questions. Groupable will also be running training sessions which are open to all Scribes.

Comments were given from the floor.

Next meeting March 12, 2022, Supreme Forest Office, Harrisburg, PA.

Benediction: James O. Walmer, Supreme Director Region 3

Adjourn: Joseph S Russell, STC