

Knights of Columbus

Louisiana State Financial Secretaries Association

Leonce Waguespack, Jr., President

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL SECRETARIES ASSOCIATION MEETING

May 3 and 4, 2008

The annual meeting of the Louisiana Financial Secretaries Association was held in Kenner, LA at the Pontchartrain Center on Saturday and Sunday, May 3 and 4, 2008.

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2008

The meeting was called to order by **President Leonce Waguespack, Jr. (13349)** at 9:06am.

Warden Robert Coco (3208) verified that all present were in possession of a current membership card.

Vice-President Keith Gautreau (8147) led the Association in the opening prayer.

2-Year Trustee John Walker (3779) led the Association in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Nominations Opened for Supreme Convention Delegate:

President Waguespack, Jr. opened the floor for nominations for a delegate to represent the association at the 2008 Supreme Convention in Quebec City, Quebec. **Eugene Braquet (6103)** nominated **Carl McGee (8058)** for election as a candidate to the Supreme Convention. There were no other nominations. There was a motion to cast one vote for **Carl McGee (8058)**.

President Waguespack, Jr appointed **Malcolm Faucheaux (1817)** to serve as the parliamentarian for the meeting. Malcolm then went over the procedures to be used in the meeting and referred to Robert Rules of Order. **President Waguespack, Jr** then stated that he had appointed **Malcolm Faucheaux (1817)** to serve as 3-year trustee to complete the term of Brother A. E. Lee.

Secretary Paul Gisclair (7557) conducted the Roll Call of Officers. 1-Year Trustee **Clark Dufrene Sr. (7350)** was the only officer not present.

Opening remarks by President Waguespack:

President Waguespack then offered his opening remarks. He recognized **Ken LeCompte (4156)** as the FSPC chairman and **Herb Hille, Jr. (9623)** as the convention chairman for this year's convention. He thanks everyone for attending today and hoped that everyone would get some benefit from this meeting. The meeting can only be successful if all the members participate and ask questions. Leonce then reviewed some of the activities of the Association from the past year. The year began with the state family meeting in June and the KCLS training sessions which were held at the end of July. There was a board meeting held in October, followed by the second state family meeting in January. The end of January brought the Grand Knights Day and the second board meeting of the year. Leonce submitted four articles to the LA Knight. He mentions that the website for the Association is up and running and if anyone has any suggestions for the website to let him know. There will be a presentation of the new member application at the conclusion of today's meeting. Leonce mentions that we keep a database of all our members as updated as possible. There are 143 members, which have given us their email address. Keith has completed the supplement to the handbook but it is very much a work in progress. If you have any ideas please let us know as we are going to continue to update the supplement. Leonce closed his remarks with a few reminders. Form #185 – Report of Officers chosen- needs to be sent into Supreme by the Financial Secretary as soon as elections are completed. It is the responsibility of the Financial Secretary to forward this report to Supreme. The Surge With Service Kit is coming. These kits are to be delivered to the incoming Grand Knight for the new fraternal year.

President Waguespack called on **Secretary Gisclair** to read the minutes of the previous meeting. **Gladwin Ball (5022)** offered a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Dennis Darby Jr (2952) seconded the motion. There then was a motion offered by **Fred Foti (1276)** to accept the minutes as amended and distributed. The motion was second by **Carl McGee (8058)**. There was no other discussion on the motion. Leonce called for a voice vote and the motion carried unanimously.

President Waguespack called on Treasurer Boneno (11921) for the treasurer's report. Boneno reported that new budget had been distributed to the attendees. He also mentions that there are actual numbers for 3 previous completed years. He mentioned that the board had a meeting the day before to discuss the budget. He went over the proposed budget. He asks if there were any questions on the proposed budget or the past budget. There were no questions offered.

Introduction of New Financial Secretaries:

President Waguespack called on all new Financial Secretaries to introduce themselves. The following members were introduced:

- **Warren Becnel (1724)**
- **David Landry (7275)**
- **Leon Oddo (6326)**
- **Raymond Batiste (10645)**
- **Curley Faulk (8322)**
- **Jacob Verdin (9000)**

President Waguespack welcomed the new financial secretaries to the Association and said please, if you need anything, just call on us. The Association's Officers would be willing to meet with you and help in anyway we can. A nice round of applause was given to these new Financial Secretaries.

President Waguespack then discussed the donation of \$500 to the **Bishop Charles P. Greco Memorial Foundation**.

Leonce then discussed the status of the luncheon.

Committee Appointments:

President Waguespack confirmed the following Committee Chairman appointments:

Audit Committee: John Walker (3779)

Memorial Committee: Malcolm Faucheux (1817)

Election Committee: John Walker (3779)

FSPC Committee: Ken LeCompte (4156)

President Waguespack then mention the list of deceased brother Financial Secretaries that he had: Brother Lonnie Dupont (10564), Uray Michot,Sr. (2878), Gerald Latour (4683), Maxie Gisclair (1208), A.E. Lee, Jr.(6326) and Frank Serio, Jr. (2150), and asked if anyone knew of a former Financial Secretary who has passed away the past year or had never been recognized. He asked that we remember these brother Knights and former financial secretaries in your prayers.

Remarks by Officers:

Vice-President Gautreau stated that he echoed Leonce's comments about it has been a pleasure to serve the last several years as he as progress up with the officers. Especially welcome to the new members, welcome back the ones that have been here before and thank you.

Treasurer Boneno (11921) said that over the past few years he has been the treasurer and that he enjoys the office and does not wish to climb any higher in office. He hopes that he is doing the best job possible and that the members appreciate the job he is doing. He also stated that the names, phone numbers and email addresses of all the officers are provided at the bottom of the membership cards. If you need to contact an officer please refer to that list.

Trustee Faucheux: Thank everyone for their support.

Trustee Walker stated that it is our responsibility to protect the assets of the council. One of the assets of the council is its membership. He stated that if a member is unable to pay his dues because of financial hardship that the council tries to help the member in anyway it could. He also

mentioned that if a council is experiencing financial hard times the State Deputy could waive per capita tax. There are ways to help and the Association is here to help. If someone in our council passes away use email to get that information to us, we will put them on our prayer list. He thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve and he hopes he is able to do that for the next few more years as the 2 Year Trustee.

President Waguespack mentions he spoken with **Clark Dufrene, Sr (7350)** who is our 1-Year Trustee. He is sad that he could not be with us. He is in the hospital right now. He wished that he could be here today.

President Waguespack then called for a break in the session.

President Waguespack called for a motion to donate \$500 to the Bishop Greco fund. **Aldon Young (13931)** motioned to make the donation. The motion was seconded by **Michael Tanner (2395)**. The motion passed.

Nomination of Officers 2008-2009:

President Waguespack called upon **Trustee John Walker** to conduct the nomination of officers.

President – **Malcolm Fauchaux (1817)** nominated **Keith Gautreau (8147)**. There were no other nominations and nominations for President were closed until Sunday.

Vice-President – **Keith Gautreau (8147)** nominated **Paul Gisclair (7557)**. There were no other nominations and nominations were closed until Sunday.

Secretary – **Paul Gisclair (7557)** nominated **Robert Coco (3208)**. There were no other nominations and nominations were closed until Sunday.

Treasurer – **Ken LeCompte (4156)** nominated Frank **Boneno (11921)**. There were no other nominations and nominations were closed until Sunday.

Warden – **Aldon Young (13931)** nominated **Gladwin Ball (5022)**. Gladwin Ball then spoke on past experiences as a knight and a Catholic gentleman. There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed until Sunday.

Three-Year Trustee – **Keith Gautreau (8147)** nominated **Leonce Waguespack, Jr. (13349)**. There were no other nominations and nominations were closed until Sunday.

General Insurance Agent Remarks:

President Waguespack introduced **General Agent Terry Kennedy** from Slidell. Kennedy spoke on the strength and health of the insurance program. He also spoke on the different types of policies available to the members. He asked that we please mail the second copy of the Form 100 to the General Agent rather than handing it to a field agent so that he can get them added to the newsletter. He thanked the financial secretaries for the work that they do

There was a discussion on keeping members degree status current with Supreme. If you receive notification from the State Council that a member has completed his 2nd and/or 3rd degree you should either fill out another Form 100 with the new degree dates or go to the Supreme Member Application website and update the information there. The financial secretary of the member's council is responsible for updating the member's information with supreme. If for some reason a member 2nd and 3rd degree dates are unknown you can just enter "Yes" in the date field. The date is not that important.

STATE DEPUTIES REMARKS:

President Waguespack introduced **State Deputy Don Fontenot**. The State Deputy stated it was a pleasure to be here. He mentions that we're struggling in the State of LA. He is asking each one of us to help. What he proposed is that in September if you have members who have not paid their dues, begin the process to get rid of them. It is not fair to the council that you support members who do not want to support the council. Once you contact them and they do not respond get rid of them, send in the 1845. He mentions he did not have a problem if we send him 1 or 2 but

when you send 37, 42 or 50 there is a problem. We need to work together. Do not carry members just for the numbers in your council. You are costing your council money. Let's do your best to contact the members to offer them the opportunity to continue as members of the Knights of Columbus. Each member that there was 1845 on received a personal letter from **State Deputy Don Fontenot**. He mentioned that several wives of the members called him to ask what it would take for their husband to continue as a member. He told them just send in a check. He hoped that those that had phoned him had sent in the check. Therefore he stated that if we contact the members maybe we could retain some of the members. Thank you for all that you do for the Knights of Columbus, for your council and most of all for the State of Louisiana.

Supreme Treasurer: Jack O'Reilly:

President Waguespack then introduced **Supreme Treasurer Jack O'Reilly**. **O'Reilly** spoke about the challenges of the computer systems at Supreme. He asked that we please be patient with the website. He said that if we need anything to just call. He stated that the Financial Secretaries are the backbone of the council. He stated to keep you the good work and thank you very much.

Vice President - Keith Gautreau (8147) offered a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Knights of Columbus

Louisiana State Financial Secretaries Association

Leonce Waguespack, Jr., President

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL SECRETARIES ASSOCIATION MEETING

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2008

The meeting was called to order by **President Leonce Waguespack, Jr. (13349)** at 9:11 am.

Warden Robert Coco (3208) verified that all present were in possession of a current membership card.

Vice-President Keith Gautreau (8147) led the Association in the opening prayer.

2-Year Trustee John Walker (3779) led the Association in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Leonce Waguespack, Jr. offered congratulations to John Walker's Council #3779 for being named the #1 Council in the State.

Secretary Paul Gisclair (7557) conducted the Roll Call of Officers. 1-Year Trustee **Clark Dufrene, Sr. (7350)** was the only officer not present.

President Waguespack recognized **Tim Boudreaux** as the Master of the 4th Degree. Tim thanked the members for all the hard work you do. You all are the backbone of the council. Keep up the good work and keep doing what you are doing. I look forward to the membership management system of Supreme getting better and better. It's working and is going to improve. There are few bugs in the system but everyone give it a chance.

President Waguespack called on Treasurer Boneno (11921) for the Treasurers Report. Treasurer Boneno asks if there were any questions on the proposed budget or the past budget. There were no questions

offered. Treasurer Boneno asked for a motion to approve the budget as stated. Malcolm Faucheux (1817) motioned to approve the budget as proposed. Warren Becnel (1724) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Nomination of Officers 2008-2009:

President Waguespack called upon **Trustee John Walker** to conduct the Nomination of Officers.

President – There were no other nominations and nominations for President were closed. **Keith Gautreau (8147)** was elected as President.

Vice-President – There were no other nominations and nominations were closed. **Paul Gisclair (7557)** was elected as Vice-President.

Secretary - There were no other nominations and nominations were closed. **Robert Coco (3208)** was elected as Secretary.

Treasurer - There were no other nominations and nominations were closed. **Frank Boneno (11921)** was elected as Treasurer.

Warden – There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed. **Gladwin Ball (5022)** was elected as Warden.

Three-year Trustee - There were no other nominations and nominations were closed. **Leonce Waguespack, Jr (13349)** was elected as Three-Year Trustee.

Leonce called for a motion to instruct the Secretary to cast 1 vote for all officers as nominated. **Ken Lecompte (4156)** offered the motion and the motion was seconded by **John Schneider (6211)**. There was no discussion and the motion was approved unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Audit Committee: Trustee Walker confirmed the audit for 2008 by stating that the Treasurer's records were examined and all records were found to be in order. The bank account was reconciled as of the last bank

statement and the bank account was found to be in agreement with the balance on the books of the Treasurer. Two Trustees respectfully submitted the audit report. **Patrick O'Conner (2878)** then offered a motion that the audit report be accepted and placed in the minutes as read. **Galdwin Ball (5022)** offered a second to the motion. There was no discussion on the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Memorial Report: Malcom Faucheux (1817) presented the Memorial Committee report. The names of Lonnie J. Dupont, Uraym J. Michot, Sr., Gerald J. Latour, Maxie J. Gisclair, A. E. Lee, Jr., and Frank Serio were presented. The Trustees respectfully submitted the Memorial Report. Louis Frey (3246) offered a motion to place the Memorial Report in minutes as read. Fred Foti (1276) offered a second to the motion. There was no discussion on the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Election Committee: Trustee Walker presented the Election Report. **John Schneider (6211)** offered a motion to accept the report as presented. **Gerard Touts (3411)** offered a second to the motion. There was no discussion on the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

General Discussion:

Ken Lecompte (4156) questioned the mileage reimbursement rate. **Keith Gautreau (8147)** explained that the mileage rate will be tied to the State of Louisiana starting July 1. The rate is available on-line. This way the rate is a published rate.

Keith Gautreau spoke about how we are preaching to the choir. The members here at the convention and meeting are doing a good job. He asked that we reach out to other financial secretaries in our area and ask them if they need help. He mentioned he would like to review the older system, going back to the basics. He spoke about the retention committee list and the conservation reports. He stated that whenever you send something to Supreme make sure you make keep a copy. Keith also spoke about withdrawals. He mentions that if someone wishes to withdraw they should write a letter. If they send you an email that would be accepted by Supreme if you print the email and mail it to Supreme. Keith stated that his job is to help the Grand Knight to do his job. Our role is to support the Grand Knight and assist them during the meetings.

Remarks by Officers:

Vice-President Gautreau thanks everyone for their support and the encouragement that he has received. He stated that he thought we were moving in the right direction and he wants to keep us moving in that direction. If you have any comments, questions or complaints please let me know first so we can address the issue.

Secretary Gisclair said thank you for the chance to serve the Association. If anyone needs anything please contact me. I am in the Broussard-Lafayette area.

Treasurer Boneno states that he really appreciates the Association letting him continue to be Treasurer, he really does like the position. He restated that we are here as your officers and for you to ask your questions and feel free to contact us anytime. Thank y'all very much.

Warden Coco stated do not be afraid to call if you need any help.

2 Year Trustee John Walker spoke to the new members about making sure you have received your handbook from Supreme, if not to order it from Supreme. It is very important to have the handbook as it will answer a lot of questions. He also mentions that you should soon be receiving the Surge Kit from Supreme. When you do receive it, make sure to deliver it to the Grand Knight. He mentions to make sure that your members receive their membership cards. The card is very important to the member. Financial Secretaries should attend the first degree to hand the new members their membership cards even though you do not have their new membership numbers. He mentioned about how at the memorial mass and the morning rosary there were not a lot of people there, however at the Saturday evening mass there were a lot of people there. He mentioned that we need to pray the rosary and be guardians of the Church, and to be good examples to our children and grandchildren and show we are not afraid to pray.

Leonce mentioned that the State has an 800 number and it should be included on the back of your membership cards. The number is 800-442-2379. He mentions that he enjoyed that last 2 years. He states that he received many calls over the last month mostly about the Form 990. That

is what we are here for - to provide training and support. He stated that he looks forward to going back to the rosary at the convention now that his term as President is over. Lunch will be at 12:30pm and the doors will open at noon. Have a safe journey home.

Vice President - Keith Gautreau (8147) offered a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 10:56 am.

Attest

Paul Gisclair
Secretary