



Maine Masonic College Board of Regents Meeting

May 17, 2009 (Corrected Copy)

The Board of Regents met at Meridian Splendor Lodge #49 in Newport, Maine. Present were Stephen Nichols as Chairman as well as Richard Bowden, Alan Heath, Edward King, Eric Kuntz, Gerald Leighton, Don McDougal, and Claire Tusch. The meeting was called to order at 9:00am and began with Steve speaking of his experience at Grand Lodge handing out the College Handbook. It was, by all accounts, very well received. Richard reported that product sales were not as brisk as last year with 9 of the Moral High Ground DVDs and 8 of the Building Ethical Confidence course DVDs being sold. In all of this, it was specifically noted that the Maine Masonic Charitable Foundation has really made our organization possible and their commitment to community education is certainly appreciated.

The minutes of the December meeting being *finally* found by our Secretary (as promised, but we all know how HE is about these things....), they, along with the minutes for April were reviewed and accepted as presented. The Treasurer presented an oral financial report.

A question was received about the Grand Lodge educational summit. There appeared to be no definite date re-set and it was said that it may held next fall.

Ed passed out the Regents' Term of Office list preparatory to the election which had been inadvertently overlooked at our last meeting. Four Regents were elected including Alan Heath to replace John Nickerson. In the blink of an eye, the officers' election was held with no one being quick enough to demur and thus all remain in their current position.

This was followed by a review of the evaluations for Reggie Wing's recent course in April. It was suggested that as part of our expansion to other areas, we might consider asking him to repeat this at or nearer to his home lodge. We also reviewed a course proposal received from Chris Reardon. Walter will work with him on this to review details and pick an appropriate date.

This led to intensive discussion regarding course scheduling which included whether we should be 'branching out' from the Newport area now – and if so, how (i.e., into one selected area or into several). A number of dates for the fall were penciled in and several Regents made commitments for various follow-up activities. We also discussed the continuing of the mailing program that we had started in the Newport area, with consideration of whether/how this would/could be done as we move programs to other parts of the state.

Jerry suggested that perhaps a summer barbecue might be a good way for us to 'kick back' as well as encourage those who had been to our programs or were curious about the College to socialize. Steve offered Jerry's new home for this!

There was a question about the video of Pollard being done at Ralph J. Pollard Lodge. Jerry will follow up on this and see if there's anything we can do to help. Eric & Richard also offered the Maine Lodge of Research as a resource as well.

Maine Masonic College – Board of Regents Minutes

A discussion of the Friends of MMC group ensued with Jim reviewing status. The planned meetings were cancelled due to both scheduling issues and a sense that they might not accomplish what we wanted (and also place too much pressure on the folks involved). Jim took 400 Handbooks and will distribute them to the Friends as well as to lodges in his travels.

Don spoke of his trip to Machias. Once again, the College was well received there and there were about 40-50 in attendance. The idea of making this into a full-course was suggested and considered very favorably.

The next meeting date was set for June 28th at Newport and as the sumptuous lunch smells began to waft through the room, Jerry graciously offered August 12th – a Wednesday evening – for the **Regents' Family Picnic** with a menu to be announced. Festivities will begin sometime after 3pm, dinner around 6:30pm and going to whenever. The plan will be to invite prior College attendees. It will *probably* be in Stetson if the move ever gets made....

Lunch being ready a bit early, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50am with discussion continuing for some time thereafter – with rumors of a Nichols' epiphany sighting as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward L. King

Secretary, Board of Regents, Maine Masonic College