

Chautauqua Chapter

Report to the 2019 Annual Conference

The past year we have been working on continued support of the Chautauqua Scholarship program, define the future of the Chapter and improve methods of collecting membership information and fees. It was a busy year with many decisions made at various meetings.

2018 General Convention offered the wonderful opportunity to hold a meeting for the Chautauqua Chapter with many members in attendance. At the meeting it was agreed the primary purpose of the Chapter was to continue to support the Chautauqua Scholarship program as long as we are able. There was also lots of passion to publicize the Order within Chautauqua. I was privileged to present at both the Chapter meeting and the Chapter report to the General Convention. We raised \$852 through membership renewal, selling pens and raffling knitted blankets made by Karen Mutka. It was heartwarming to see so much interest in the Chapter!

At the General Convention I attend a meeting of Chapter executives, this meeting was organized to coordinate a membership form that will serve all Chapters for membership and donations. It was decided to create this form as many member expressed confusion to paying dues with the annual Order renewal. By splitting this form and timing (we will distribute in Spring) we hope to make member's commitment to a Chapter less confusing. We continue to work to improve the completeness of our membership lists, and financial records with the help of head office.

In 2018 we supported the Chautauqua scholar Zoltán Tóth from Transcarpathia, Ukraine. Zoltan speaks Hungarian, English and a bit of German. He is a member of the Carpathian Hungarian Cultural Association (KMKSZ). The goal of KMKSZ is to advocate, preserve and cultivate the culture, national traditions and mother tongue of the Hungarian culture in the territory of Ukraine beyond the Carpathian Mountains. This organization also helps in the establishment of churches and private education center. The Chautauqua Scholarship program provided Zoltan his first opportunity to come to America.

We had the opportunity to meet Zoltan at the annual Chautauqua Chapter Luncheon. We met all the scholars and staff that manage the program. Vicki Carter, Ron Carter and Celia Knighton, an executive of the Chapter, were awarded the Founders Award for all that have contributed to the Chautauqua Program.

I am pleased to tell you that the Chapter executive is eager to work hard to build on the long legacy and renew the excitement in all the efforts of the KDS at Chautauqua, particularly supporting the scholars.

In His Name,

Michael Salfi

President, Chautauqua Chapter