

4/10/60

A-Report of the Organizational Meeting of Heart of America Chapter

The first meeting of the Heart of America Chapter of the NAWCC was held at the home of Caspar A. Wagner on Sunday, April 10, 1960, in Kansas City, Mo. The National Director, Mrs. Hovey, called the meeting to order and read a letter from Alfred C. Scott, the National President, and telegrams from Vice Presidents James W. Gibbs and Urban Thielmann. She then appointed our host, C. A. Wagner, temporary chairman. The Chairman read a letter of congratulations from the National Business Director, Earl Strickler, and his personal thanks to Mrs. Hovey for the grand job she was doing organizing the chapters in her district. Then the Chairman asked for a temporary secretary until the elections could be completed. Mrs. Hovey suggested Clement C. Wagner and he was approved.

The first business was to pick a name for the Chapter. Several were suggested and after considerable discussion the "Heart of America Chapter of NAWCC" was unanimously approved. By-Laws came up next and Bill Bruer suggested that we use By-Laws used by other chapters, and Mr. Henry made a motion that we accept the By-Laws used by the St. Louis Chapter. This motion was seconded by Mr. Calvin Peck and the vote was unanimous in favor.

The next business was election of permanent officers. Mr. Wagner nominated Bill Bruer. This nomination was seconded by Mr. Peck and Mr. Peck further moved that the nomination be closed. Mr. Henry seconded this and the vote was unanimous for Bill Bruer for president. Mrs. Hovey suggested that two vice presidents be chosen, 1 from Kansas and one from Missouri. It was discussed and decided that whichever one received the most votes would be 1st Vice President, and the other 2nd Vice President. Mr. Peck nominated Mr. Jack Brown of Wichita and Mr. Bruer nominated Mr. H. J. Tholen of Hays for Kansas. Mr. Vandervort nominated Mr. Fox of Sedalia and Mr. Fox nominated Mr. Carroll Thomas of Sweet Springs for Missouri. Since we had two from each state to choose from Mr. Bruer moved that nominations be closed and Mr. Peck seconded the motion. When the ballots were counted, Mr. Tholen had the highest number of votes and was elected 1st Vice President, and Mr. Thomas was elected 2nd Vice President.

Mr. Bruer nominated Clement Wagner for Secretary-Treasurer. This was seconded by Mr. Peck who moved that the nominations be closed which was seconded by Mr. Henry. The vote was unanimous. Then the amount of dues was discussed and Mrs. Hovey suggested that their dues was \$2.00 per year in St. Louis. Mr. Bruer made a motion that we start the dues at \$2.00 a member per year which was seconded by Mr. Peck. The vote was again unanimous. Mr. Richard Camden, 9814 Kentucky, Kansas City, Mo., was the first member to join. He immediately paid his dues to the National Association and the Heart of America Chapter. In order that our Chapter Meetings would not conflict with those of the St. Louis Chapter, Mr. Henry suggested the months of April, July, October and January and that the meetings be held on the first Sunday of the month. Mr. Bruer made a motion to accept these dates and Mr. Peck seconded the motion, which was then passed by a unanimous vote. The meeting was then turned over to our new President, Mr. Bill Bruer.

Mr. Jack Brown, 440 Turquoise Lane, Wichita, Kansas, made a motion to have the next meeting at his home in Wichita. Mr. Fox seconded and the motion was passed by unanimous vote. The meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 10th, as the first Sunday in July is over the July 4th Holiday. Mrs. Vandervort from Moberly, Mo., invited all members to attend the St. Louis Chapter Meeting at their home on the third Sunday in September. The meeting ended approximately 3:30 with twenty Charter Members present and fifteen guests. We hope that with the excellent start we had that this membership will grow to be twenty times twenty and that all members will benefit as much from sharing their ideas and treasures with one another as there are drops of water in the ocean.

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The members who have been elected to offices of our Chapter would like to thank all members and anyone (everyone) who contributed in anyway to bringing about such a wonderful gathering and for the favor of guiding such an enthusiastic organization as we have; but please remember that we can only do as well as the organization behind us wishes, so please do all in your power to let us know what your wishes are and stand beside us in publicizing our new Chapter and obtaining new members. We will receive our Charter from the National Association at the National Convention to be held in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, May 20th and 21st of this year--next month. Our President, Mr. Bruer, and the National Directors have asked us to have a delegation there at that time to receive our Charter. Would any members who can possibly attend at that time please advise your Secretary of such so that I can write Mr. Strickler that we will have a good representation.

I will hold up the list of Charter Members until the end of April so that as many as desire have an opportunity to be entered among this group. In addition, personal Membership Cards are being prepared by our President. If for any reason, your name is misspelled or address is incorrect, please advise the Secretary immediately so that the correction can be made. This applies true at all times, not only just now.

One additional point. Some interesting facts that arose from the first meeting might be noted: Our oldest member is Mr. Herman J. Tholen who is 69 years young, and he likewise holds the honor of being the member who came the longest distance that day--Hays, Kansas, is 280 plus miles from Kansas City. In addition he holds the distinction of actually having made several complete clocks, and of being the longest in the business of jeweler of any member in our association. Your Secretary is the youngest member, 25 years old; Mr. John L. Hardie is the member who has had a Membership Card with the National Association the longest; Mrs. Margaret K. Hovey is a Director of the National Association, which makes our Chapter very happy to be able to say that Missouri and our Chapter will have a representative sitting on the Board of Directors of a National Association as large as ours (almost 5000 members with members throughout the entire World). Last, but not least, it was discovered quite by accident that three of our members have birthdays on the same day--even though a few actual years separate their ages. Our 1st Vice President, Mr. Herman J. Tholen of Hays, Kansas, Mr. Ernest I. Motley of St. Joseph, Mo., and Mr. Caspar A. Wagner of Kansas City, Mo., will all celebrate on October 2nd, and ironically enough, our October Meeting falls on October 2nd. That will be some celebration.

Thanking all of you and expecting to see you in Wichita on July 10th, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Clement C. Wagner

Clement C. Wagner, Secretary
5802 Garfield
Kansas City 30, Mo.

P.S. I hope to come out with a monthly Report with reminders of events coming us and short notes of interesting additions to your collections or accidents you just happened to stumble across. Therefore, in order to do such, I would appreciate it if you, the members, would drop me an occasional line of such happenings or acquisitions. Thankyou.