

2012 Congress Minutes

Calvinist Cadet Corps

Heritage CRC, Byron Center, Michigan

I. Thursday, January 12

A. Opening Ceremonies

1. President Mike VanderMeer brought Congress to order in the sanctuary, welcoming the men.
2. We began by singing the Cadet Hymn, "Living for Jesus" and "With Grateful Heart."
3. President Mike talked about God as the heart of the Calvinist Cadet Corps. In his metaphor, we as congressmen and presidents are the blood that God pumps and sends out with what the men and boys of cadeting need.
4. Pastor Ron offered opening devotions. He spoke on Philippians 3:7 and told how this was his life verse. He brought in the rest of Philippians 3 as well.
5. We moved from the church sanctuary to the gym, AKA the Ark.

B. Roll Call and Introductions

1. Secretary John-Michael Dykstra took roll call.
 - a. The following congressmen or acting congressmen were present.

Algonquin	Colin Kalverda
Bear Creek	John Barneveld
Berean	John-Michael Dykstra
Blue Mountain	Dave Ryan
Cascade	Jim Bauman
Central Alberta	Robert Salomons
Chicago West	Bradley Wieringa
Eastern	Craig VanWyk
Fraser Valley	Len Noort, Peter VanderMeulen
Golden Bear	Dennis Lucas
Golden Plains	Tom Schemper
Grand Rapids	Dick Koster, Cal Struck
Grand Rapids North	Douglas DeVos, Tom Slendebroek
Grand River	Warren Post
Grand Valley	Sam Johnson, Don VanDerKlok
Great Lakes	Larry Visser
Greater Edmonton	Tony Nagtegaal
Hawkeye	Rick Jansen, Kent VanKooten
Heritage	Henry Bosch, Rick VanderPloeg
Huron & Erie	Russ Knapper
Illiana	Wayne Lewis, Bryan Mollema, Brian Sluiter
Iroquois	Mike Andree, Henry Kroezen
Kalamazoo	John Meier
Maitland Valley	Steve Bootsma
Musk-O-Tawa	Gary Schamper
Niagara	Lloyd Wierenga
Northwest Washington	Karl Bosman
Ottagan	Steve Machiele, Tim Speelman
Pacific Sierra	Doug Laber
Pine Ridge	Walt DeLange
Quinte	Ben Snoek
Rush Creek	Larry DeHaan, Ken Dennis, Russ Ritsema
Saint Clair	Ed Wolting
Sioux Valley	Cal Spronk
Southern California	Matt Gabrielse, Jim Grasmeyer
Thornapple Valley	Dale Marsman
Three Rivers	Marty VanderPlaats
West Winds	Clarence Slomp
Wood-N-Stream	Doug Hartger
Yellowstone	Ronald Freswick

- b. The following presidents or acting presidents were present: Wilbert Lise (Algonquin), Henry Fohkens (Bear Creek), Paul Scharringa (Berean), Frank Kuipers (Central Alberta), Lambert Bronger (Chicago West), Len Noort (Fraser Valley), Mike Feys (Grand Rapids), Randy TenBrink (Grand River), Mark Gortsema (Grand Valley), Bryce Jansen (Hawkeye), Paul Maas (Heritage - arrived Friday), Harvey Beishuizen (Huron & Erie), Dirk Feikema (Iliana), Fred Dykman (Iroquois), Curtis Bacon (Kalamazoo), Brian Buter (Musk-O-Tawa), Jack VanderMaas (Niagara), Fausto Fernandez (Ottagan), Walt DeLange (Pine Ridge), Henry Otter (Quinte), Greg Kooiker (Rush Creek), Dave Roghair (Three Rivers), Frank Ayre (Wood-N-Stream), and Del VanDenBerg (Yellowstone).
 - c. The following executive committee members were present: Mike VanderMeer, Henry Bosch, John-Michael Dykstra, Larry Visser, Larry DeHaan, Gary vanZandwijk, and Tom Slendebroek.
 - d. The following staff members and associated personnel were present: Dick Broene, Kathy Door, Bob deJonge, Mary Broene, Kim Keller, Rev. Ron Noorman, Bert Bakhuyzen (arrived Friday), Bernard Teeninga, Marlin Hendricks, Peter Tiemersma, Del VanDenBerg, Lee Dobbs, Terry Kimber, John Kiers, and Bill Pennings.
 - e. President Mike asked visitors to introduce themselves. They included Mark Stam, Barry Bonvanie, Mike Brouwer, Gerry Bijnsma, Bill DeJong, George Huiskamp, Will Brock, Joe Frederick, Leonie VanderMeer, Tim Cosby, Mike McGervey, Mary Kimber, Alan Gerritsen, and Anita Teeninga.
 - f. The following visioning team members were present: Alex Snider, Jeff Bakhuyzen, Jim Hoekstra, John Kaashoek, Bob deJonge, Larry DeHaan, Mike Feys, Steve Machiele, Don VanDerKlok, Mike VanderMeer, Dick Broene John-Michael Dykstra, and Ron Noorman.
 - g. President Mike appointed Vice President Henry Bosch to be the parliamentarian.
 - h. President VanderMeer introduced the following men as executive committee nominees: Ed Groot, John Barneveld, Cal Struck, Warren Post, Rick VanderPloeg, Steve Bootsma, Gary Schamper, Steve Machiele, Ed Wolting, Dale Marsman, and Russ Ritsema. Rick VanderPloeg later removed his name from the running.
- C. Business and Reports
- 1. M-S-P to accept the stated goal of cadeting.
 - 2. Don VanDerKlok presented a report as chairman of the visioning team.
 - 3. Bernard Teeninga tendered the training coordinator's report and introduced the RTCs and the people working on the Counselor Certification Course study.
 - 4. Mike VanderMeer introduced Mike MGervey as past executive director of the Cadet Corps.
 - 5. Dick Broene gave the staff report and introduced the promotion team.
 - 6. Treasurer Larry Visser brought the men up to date on the financial picture of the Corps.
 - 7. Mike divulged a few housekeeping announcements from the staff.
 - 8. President VanderMeer announced that each committee has to select two volunteers — one man to be a reporter and one to be on the budget committee. He stated that the budget committee member must be a congressman.
 - 9. President VanderMeer announced committee room assignments.
 - 10. M-S-P to approve the procedural rules as listed on page 12 of the agenda.
 - 11. President VanderMeer dismissed congressmen to their respective committees.

II. Friday, January 13

- A. 11:43 — Mike called the assembly to order and made some pre-lunch announcements. Jim Hoekstra (soon to be chaplain) prayed.
- B. Assembly after lunch
 - 1. President VanderMeer reconvened the assembly and we sang "He Leadeth Me" and "My Jesus, I Love Thee."
 - 2. Chaplain Ron Noorman opened the session of Congress by reading Philippians 3:12–14 and talking about straining for the future while maintaining unity in the ministry. He led in prayer.
 - 3. Mike explained the procedure for discussion this afternoon.
 - 4. A count of congressmen and club consultant showed that we have 54 present. We need 28 for a simple majority.
- C. Membership and Promotion Report — John-Michael Dykstra
 - 1. M-S-P to approve an amended executive committee proposal to change the constitution, allowing proposals to be rejected if they contradict a proposal made in the past two years.
 - 2. M-S-P to approve an executive committee proposal to change the constitution, allowing the name of the organization to be changed. There were 37 votes in favor.

- D. Program Committee Report — Gary vanZandwijk
 - 1. M-S-P to accept a Rush Creek proposal for a series of Bible Study advanced badges.
 - 2. M-S-P to accept a Rush Creek proposal for a Cadet History and Organization Merit Badge.
 - 3. M-S-P to accept a Grand Valley proposal for a Church Leadership Merit Badge.
 - 4. M-S-P to accept an amended Grand Valley proposal for a Taxidermy merit badge. The amendment changes it to a guide trail.
- E. Communications Committee Report — Henry Bosch
 - 1. M-S-P to accept an amended Berean proposal regarding a Web system. The amendment requires an ad hoc committee to explore and implement it.
 - a. M-S-P to add the words "and report to Congress" in place of the word "implement."
 - b. M-S-P to accept the amended proposal as amended.
- F. BREAK UNTIL 2:54
- G. Education Committee Report — Larry DeHaan
 - 1. M-S-P to accept an amended Musk-O-Tawa proposal regarding mentoring and coaching. The amendment mandates that we pursue professional assistance to incorporate mentoring guidance programs in the DCE training.
 - 2. M-S-P to reject an Iroquois proposal to reduce the size of the R•P•B Guidebook.
- H. Uniform Committee Report — Tom Slendebroek
 - 1. M-S-P to accept an amended Berean proposal regarding the official Cadet uniform. The amendment allows councils to determine the council events for which uniform is required.
- I. Mike asked the executive committee nominees to come to the front and introduce themselves. All who were present did.
- J. Bert Bakhuyzen gave the independent club consultant report.
- K. The budget committee met.
- L. Congress reconvened in the sanctuary after supper.
 - 1. Chairman VanderMeer made a few announcements and turned it over to Pastor Ron Noorman, who led us through a time of prayer, patterned after the Lord's Prayer.

III. Saturday, January 14

- A. Opening • 9:00 AM
 - 1. Congress reconvened. We sang "Have Thine Own Way, Lord" and "T'was Not That I Didst Choose Thee."
 - 2. Chaplain Ron Noorman led us in devotions. He read the verses 13 and 14 from Philippians 3 again about forgetting what is behind. The verse tells us to be visionaries and look to the future
 - 3. President Mike arranged for people who needed rides to be brought to the airport.
 - 4. Introductions: Cary and Judy Hirdes, Carol Struck, Nora DeHaan, Carol DeVos, Ray DeWinkle, and Russ VanLaan
- B. Executive Committee Elections
 - 1. An audible count of congressmen showed 52 voting members present, making 27 a majority.
 - 2. Mike appointed a ballot count committee: Ron Noorman, Jim Hoekstra, and John Kiers.
 - 3. Mike introduced the men running for office and told the men to vote for four, since we have to replace the three retiring members plus Larry DeHaan, who becomes president.
- C. Area Review • 9:28 AM
 - 1. President Mike introduced Bev Abma, who told us what was done with the money collected at the international camporee's offering for the Foods Resource Bank. They consist of fifteen different agencies working in all parts of the world. The money was used to start a new program in Kenya.
- D. Back to elections
 - 1. John Barneveld, Steve Bootsma, and Steve Machiele were elected on the first ballot.
 - 2. M-S-P to vote between the next two highest. They are Dale Marsman and Warren Post.
- E. Back to area review
 - 1. President Mike asked especially for council news and special events.
 - 2. Pau Scharringa, Berean, told of how his own club earned the new Memorial Merit Badge, celebrating with a World War II veteran.
 - 3. Kim Keller, Corps staff, invited people to come to this year's CCC fishing tournament on June 2.

4. Terry Kimber, RTC, invited people to the golf outing in Michigan to defray transportation expenses from Michigan to the next international camporee in Alberta. The cost is \$70 per golfer.
 5. John Kiers, RTC, challenged Americans to try to match the Canadians in fund raising at the fishing tournament. He also invited people to a fishing tournament put on in Ontario to raise funds to help implement mentoring within DCE. It is scheduled at Rice Lake on September 22.
 6. Bill Pennings, RTC, invited people to the August 18 eighth annual Canadian golf tournament. Cost is \$110.00 per person.
 7. Henry Fohkens, Bear Creek, announced the 2013 All Ontario Camporee.
 8. Brian Buter, Musk-O-Tawa invited people to their 50-something annual camporee.
- F. Back to elections
1. Warren Post was elected to serve a one year term.
 2. M-S-P to recycle the ballots.
- G. Mike announced the election of the Canadian DYM board representative. Nominations included Wilbert Lise, Gary vanZandwijk, and Mike VanderMeer.
- H. Back to area review
1. Kathy Door, staff, wondered about the accommodations. Is Motel 6 still good enough? There have been complaints. Guys were overwhelmingly okay with staying at Motel 6 to save money.
- I. Mike announced that he had been elected to the DYM Canada board.
- J. President VanderMeer thanked Henry Bosch, John-Michael Dykstra, and Gary vanZandwijk for the pleasure of serving with them on the executive committee for the past two years.
1. M-S-P that the ballots be destroyed.
- K. Budget Committee Report — Larry Visser
1. Larry announced that the fiscal year runs from March 1 through the end of February. This proposed budget is for March 1, 2012–February 28, 2013.
 2. He explained the budget sheet, what each column represents.
 3. M-S-P to approve the Calvinist Cadet Corps budget for 2012–2013 as presented. Unanimously.
- L. 2012 Convention Promo — Jack VanderMaas of Niagara told of the upcoming counselors' convention. He showed a video, promoting the July 12–14 event.
- M. Frank Kuipers promoted the 2014 International Camporee.
- N. Staff Review
- O. Closing • 11:13 AM
1. Mike made a few announcements.
 - a. He introduced Will Brock as a counselor in his 50th year of service.
 - b. He asked people to leave their name tags and paper clip them to their name cards
 - c. He thanked Mary Broene for playing the piano.
 - d. He had Don VanDerKlok introduce the newest visioning team members.
 - e. Mike asked all the staff to stand. He said some very nice things about them and thanked them for their service.
 2. Mike thanked Pastor Ron for his years of service and gave him a gift from the Corps.
 3. Mike introduced Jim Hoekstra as the new chaplain. Jim told of how Joshua replaced Moses, a great and respected leader, and how he is humbled in replacing such a respected leader as Pastor Ron.
 4. John-Michael Dykstra stole the microphone applauded Mike, thanking him for all his mentoring and his work.
 5. Mike talked for a few moments about his experiences as Corps president.
 6. Mike introduced Larry DeHaan as the new Corps president and presented him with a gavel.
 7. Larry expressed his great joy at taking over this position. He thanked Mike VanderMeer for his years of service and gave him a gift from the Corps.
 8. M-S-P to adjourn. Next Congress is January 10–12, 2013.
 9. Dick Broene closed in prayer • 11:50 AM.
 10. We sang "Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy blessing" and "Living for Jesus."