

Official Proceedings
42nd Biennial Conclave
FarmHouse Fraternity, Inc.
August 7-11, 2002
West Lafayette, Indiana

The Opening Business Meeting of the 42nd Biennial FarmHouse Conclave was called to order by President Dwight Raab at 8:30 am, Friday, August 9, 2002.

Raab provided the invocation and led the assemblage in reciting the FarmHouse Object.

Raab introduced and recognized the FarmHouse International Board of Directors and members of the FarmHouse International staff. He also introduced and recognized members of the Foundation Board of Trustees.

Raab then introduced the Conclave Parliamentarian, Travis Scherer.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE: Chairman Craig Harris reported that the credentials of the following chapters and associations had not been presented to the committee or were otherwise incomplete and therefore their delegates were ineligible to vote: Chapters - Arkansas, Clemson, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan State, ND State, SD State, Texas Tech, Western Kentucky; Associations – Arkansas, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa State, Michigan State, Minnesota, Missouri, NC State, ND State, Oklahoma State, Texas Tech, Western Kentucky.

Next, FarmHouse International Board Member Travis Park presented some tips and pointers on approaching a formal business meeting.

NOMINATIONS: Past Board President Clark Hanson took over as chair for nominations to the International Board. Hanson reviewed the nomination and election procedures for the four seats that were up for election for 2002-06 terms. He reviewed that Steve England, Bryce Freeman, Brian McCann, Peter Mundt, Dwight Raab and Garry Weston had been properly nominated by submitting materials by the required deadline. Hanson called for additional nominations from the floor. There were none.

LOCAL CHAPTER SUPPORT/HEALTH COMMITTEE: Committee Chairman Will Gibson, Missouri Chapter delegate, reported that the committee:

1. Discussed the Regional Advisory Council concept –
 - Fully in support of the concept using volunteers to better service and support chapters, giving two thumbs up to the idea;
 - believed that more contact and follow-up support with chapters is a positive thing;
 - cautioned against phasing out the consultation program, but instead using targeted chapter visits to supplement support efforts;
 - encouraged the Board to create as many regions as necessary to provide sufficient attention to all chapters.
2. Discussed focus on internal expansion -
 - The committee looked at internal expansion of existing chapters and stated that the committee recommended that expansion should be prioritized in the following order:
 - a. strengthen existing chapters

- b. re-chartering chapters that are inactive
- c. starting new chapters

3. Gibson reported that the committee recommends that the Fraternity develop a Best Ideas “recipe-type” book for chapters to learn best approaches, programs, ideas.

4. Gibson also reported that the committee encourages the Fraternity and Foundation to make an effort to expand the FarmHouse Leadership Academy to include more officers and tracks.

Gibson moved, seconded by Trevor Cramer, South Dakota Association delegate, to accept the committee’s report; PASSED.

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE: Committee Chairman Robert Johnson, Purdue Chapter delegate, reported that the committee:

1. Reviewed the following current programs/publications –
 - FarmHouse Leadership Academy – the committee expressed a strong desire to see the conference be expanded, and believed the treasurer position should be the next officer added. The committee also wanted to see chapters be encouraged to send and pay for a second recruitment officer;
 - Regional Leadership Conferences – the committee suggested that more time be built into the program for social and non-formal interactions;
 - Conclave – the biggest concern was the cost. The committee would like to see the cost decreased, possibly through scholarships to send people to Conclave. The committee also suggested that no awards be presented on Sunday for those traveling a great distance.
 - Career Days – the committee suggested creating more Career Days programs on a more regionalized basis. The committee liked the posting of resumes on the FarmHouse web site and encouraged that it be promoted more.
 - *Pearls & Rubies* – the committee believed the new format was a great idea and encouraged chapters and alumni to help do a better job of updating alumni addresses with the database.
 - *Inside FH* – the committee recommended that chapter presidents forward the weekly e-mail on to all interested FH actives and alumni;
 - *FarmHouse Flash* – the committee reported that it may not be necessary because of the Inside FH emails, but it is possibly a good reminder.
2. Discussed future programs –
 - Spiritual retreat – the committee liked the concept, possibly tied in with a missions trip. The committee thought it might be able to be tied in with an RLC or Conclave in the future. The committee suggested that one chapter might host and coordinate it each year;
 - Web site – the committee suggested that it’d like to see the web site have a searchable feature for alumni;
 - Speaker’s bureau – the committee believed that creating a database of possible FarmHouse speakers in each region would be a great idea.
3. Discussed Chapter Award of Excellence and Challenge program –
 - The committee believed this was a good program and a great way to help younger chapters.

Johnson moved, seconded by James Serley, Troy State Chapter delegate, to accept the committee’s report; PASSED.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE: Harris provided an update of chapters and associations that had not yet submitted their credentials and therefore their delegates were ineligible to vote: Chapters - Arkansas, Michigan State, SD State; Associations – Arkansas, Michigan State, NC State.

EXTERNAL EXPANSION COMMITTEE: Committee Chairman James Serley, Troy State Chapter delegate, reported that the committee:

1. Focused on the expansion efforts at Texas A&M – and concluded that the start of the colony had been successful because of good campus selection, staff member Jonathan Hawley being onsite for the first 3 weeks and good support from motivated advisors;
2. Reviewed fields for the expansion database that is being planned and approved of the fields being targeted;
3. Urge chapters to assist with FarmHouse expansion efforts;
4. Reviewed the status of the Minnesota-Crookston colony;
5. Approved of the operational plan for external expansion that's been developed;
6. Was in unanimous support of the Regional Advisory Council concept.

Serley moved, seconded by Rick Munson, Kansas Association delegate, to accept the committee's report.

BYLAWS & RITUAL COMMITTEE: Committee Chairman Trent Niemeier, Wisconsin-Platteville Chapter delegate, reported that the committee:

- Had only 1 proposed bylaw change brought before it – that being to enable associations to reinstate membership of alumni members who had been inadvertently terminated. The committee decided not to take any action on the proposed change (noting that the International Board is given the power to interpret the bylaws and make exceptions, as per Article II, Section 10 of the bylaws, and that this proposed change would be unnecessary).

Niemeier moved, seconded by Mark Peters, Auburn Association delegate, to accept the committee's report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Committee Chairman Mackenzie Davenport, Auburn Chapter delegate, reported that the committee:

- Reviewed the 2002-03 budget and found it satisfactory;
- Discussed possible future dues increases;
- Davenport moved, seconded by Matt Turner, undergraduate representative on International Board, that a recommendation be made that the next Conclave approve a dues increase in 2004 that is incremental in nature; **PASSED.**
- John Duke, Clemson Association delegate, suggested that trends and information to educate members on the need for a dues increase be sent to members and delegates beforehand.

Davenport moved, seconded by Josh Fuller, Oklahoma State Chapter delegate, to accept the committee's report.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE: Harris provided an update of chapters and associations that had not yet submitted their credentials and therefore their delegates were ineligible to vote: Chapters - Michigan State; Associations –Michigan State.

Start of Closing Business Meeting, Saturday, August 10, 2002

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE: Harris reported that all 28 chapters and 28 associations and all nine FarmHouse International Board members in attendance were paid up on all dues/fees/invoices with the Fraternity and properly credentialed to vote at Conclave.

BOARD ELECTION SPEECHES: During Saturday's business meeting, each candidate was allotted 3 minutes for speeches supporting his nomination. Ballots were distributed, collected and counted.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE: Chairman Nathan Lawson, Kentucky Chapter delegate, moved, seconded Buddy Crass, Tennessee Association delegate, that:

WHEREAS the Iowa State Chapter celebrated its 75th anniversary, the Kentucky Chapter its 50th, and the Purdue Chapter its 50th.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2002 Conclave of FarmHouse Fraternity congratulates these chapters for their monumental anniversaries and expresses its appreciation for their support, service and contributions to the International Fraternity;

WHEREAS the Nebraska Chapter celebrated its 90th anniversary, Kansas State its 80th, Minnesota its 70th, and Auburn its 30th

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2002 Conclave of FarmHouse Fraternity congratulates these chapters for their success and expresses its appreciation for these chapter's support, service and contributions to the International Fraternity; PASSED.

Lawson moved, seconded by Scott Adams, Iowa Chapter delegate, that:

WHEREAS Jack Thomas is retiring from the International Executive Board of FarmHouse Fraternity after 8 years of service,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave of FarmHouse Fraternity, on behalf of the entire Fraternity, thank him for his outstanding contribution;

WHEREAS Marty Cleckler is retiring from the International Executive Board of FarmHouse Fraternity after 4 years of service,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave of FarmHouse Fraternity, on behalf of the entire Fraternity, thank him for his outstanding contribution; PASSED.

Lawson moved, seconded by Kris Crews, Missouri Association delegate, that:

WHEREAS Bob Skinner is retiring from the FarmHouse Foundation Board of Trustees of FarmHouse Fraternity after 12 years of service;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave of FarmHouse Fraternity, on behalf of the entire Fraternity, thank him for his outstanding contribution;

WHEREAS the late Bob Keefer ended his service on the FarmHouse Foundation Board of Trustees of FarmHouse Fraternity after 6 years of service;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave of FarmHouse Fraternity, on behalf of the entire Fraternity, recognize him posthumously and thank his family for his outstanding contribution;

WHEREAS Harold Steele is retiring from the FarmHouse Foundation Board of Trustees of FarmHouse Fraternity after 4 years of service;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave of FarmHouse Fraternity, on behalf of the entire Fraternity, thank him for his outstanding contribution;

WHEREAS Ken Converse is retiring from the FarmHouse Foundation Board of Trustees of FarmHouse Fraternity after 6 years of service;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave of FarmHouse Fraternity, on behalf of the entire Fraternity, thank him for his outstanding contribution;

WHEREAS Bob Dahlberg has retired from the FarmHouse Foundation Board of Trustees of FarmHouse Fraternity after 3 years of service;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave of FarmHouse Fraternity, on behalf of the entire Fraternity, thank him for his outstanding contribution; PASSED.

Resolutions committee member Chris Winn, Colorado State Chapter delegate, moved, seconded by Dave Huck, Troy State Association delegate, that:

WHEREAS Gary Schneidmiller has been nominated by the FarmHouse Foundation for the Master Builder of Men Award,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave, on behalf of the International Fraternity, we honor him for his devotion and efforts with respect to upholding the ideals of the Fraternity and “building of men,” and

WHEREAS Dennis Liptrap has been nominated by the Kentucky Chapter for the Master Builder of Men Award,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave, on behalf of the International Fraternity, we honor him for his devotion and efforts with respect to upholding the ideals of the Fraternity and “building of men,” and

WHEREAS Randy Weaver has been nominated by the Texas Tech Chapter of FarmHouse Fraternity for the Master Builder of Men Award,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave, on behalf of the International Fraternity, we honor him for his devotion and efforts with respect to upholding the ideals of the Fraternity and “building of men,” and

WHEREAS Bob Dahlberg has been nominated by the Iowa State Chapter of FarmHouse Fraternity for the Master Builder of Men Award,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave, on behalf of the International Fraternity, we honor him for his devotion and efforts with respect to upholding the ideals of the Fraternity and “building of men,” and

WHEREAS Roy Frederick has been nominated by the Nebraska Chapter of FarmHouse Fraternity for the Master Builder of Men Award,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave, on behalf of the International Fraternity, we honor him for his devotion and efforts with respect to upholding the ideals of the Fraternity and “building of men;” PASSED.

Winn moved, seconded by Steve England, Nebraska Association delegate, that:

WHEREAS Bob Keefer is the 2002 recipient of the FarmHouse Foundation Laureate (posthumously)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave, on behalf of the International Fraternity recognize him not only for his support of the Fraternity and Foundation, but also for his philanthropic work in his own community.

WHEREAS Roy Reiman is the 2001 recipient of the FarmHouse Foundation Laureate

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave, on behalf of the International Fraternity recognize him not only for his support of the Fraternity and Foundation, but also for his philanthropic work in his own community; PASSED.

Resolutions committee member Zach Ireland, Kansas State Chapter delegate, moved, seconded by Kenneth McNeal, Mississippi State Association delegate that:

WHEREAS Bob Keefer (IL'51), Bill May (OK'38), Hilton Briggs (IA'33), Cliff Jorgensen (NE'28), Robert Moore (NC'54), William Dinusson (OK'38), and Larry Mitich (WY'50) be remembered as Master Builders Eternal

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave posthumously recognizes them for their outstanding example in Building Men; PASSED.

Ireland moved, seconded by Josh Fuller, Oklahoma State Chapter delegate, that:

WHEREAS William "Bill" May was initiated into the Oklahoma Chapter of FarmHouse Fraternity in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirty-eight; and

WHEREAS Bill was a strong and devout Christian man who epitomized what a FarmHouse man should and ought to strive to be; and

WHEREAS Bill maintained a sincere and deep regard and interest in the direction and achievements of the Fraternity and strove to ensure that the strong Christian values that are the corner stone of FarmHouse's foundation and the superb academic traditions would never be lost; and

WHEREAS Bill and his wife Catherine's philanthropic contributions extended far beyond FarmHouse Fraternity; and

WHEREAS Bill and Catherine's continued financial support, not only of the International Fraternity and Foundation, but also of the Oklahoma State Chapter, Kansas State Chapter, and the countless others through the scholarship fund that bears their name is unequalled; and

WHEREAS Bill's loss has been and will continue to be felt deeply by all those who's lives he has touched and the Fraternity.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave of FarmHouse Fraternity, on behalf of the entire International Fraternity, hereby recognize William "Bill" May for his long-lived support of and dedication to FarmHouse Fraternity and all that it stands for and commend him for being an exemplary example of a FarmHouse Man.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave of FarmHouse Fraternity, on behalf of the entire International Fraternity, extend, to his beloved wife Catherine our deepest sympathies for her loss, as well as our greatest appreciation for their support and dedication over the years; PASSED.

Ireland moved, seconded by Bryce Freeman, Iowa Association delegate, that:

WHEREAS Alyssa Marie Griffith, born July 1, 2002, to Jim and Barbara Griffith.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave, on behalf of the International Fraternity, congratulate Jim and Barbara on the birth of their daughter; PASSED.

Ireland moved, seconded by Daniel Melder, Mississippi State Chapter delegate, that:

WHEREAS the University Inn and Conference Center has provided their hospitality, services and facilities to the 2002 Conclave of FarmHouse Fraternity; and

WHEREAS the facilities have been more than sufficient and pleasant,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that FarmHouse Fraternity thank the hotel and staff for all their assistance in helping to arrange the implementation of a successful Conclave; PASSED.

Ireland moved, seconded by Travis Park, FarmHouse International Board, that:

WHEREAS Housemothers across the country have been invaluable to the Fraternity in the formation of gentlemen,

WHEREAS Housemothers have acted selflessly and with great love and care.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave recognize and thank housemothers throughout FarmHouse Fraternity for their dedication, service and help in building men; PASSED.

Ireland moved, seconded by Chad Ringo, Western Kentucky Chapter delegate, that:

WHEREAS Alumni Associations of all FarmHouse chapters be recognized for selfless service and contributions to the International Fraternity and the respective chapters

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2002 Conclave on behalf of the undergraduate membership recognize our Alumni Associations for their assistance; PASSED.

Ireland moved, seconded by John Duke, Clemson Association delegate, that:

WHEREAS the Purdue Association, Foundation, and active chapter hosted the 2002 Conclave

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the International Board and Foundation, as well as the undergraduate membership thank Purdue for an outstanding 42nd biennial Conclave.

BOARD ELECTION RESULTS: Hanson announced that the Board Members elected for the 2002-06 term are: Bryce Freeman, Peter Mundt, Dwight Raab and Garry Weston. Mundt and Raab were re-elected, having just completed their first two 4-year terms.

Calls for OLD and NEW BUSINESS from the floor from President Dwight Raab went silent.

Raab called for a motion to be adjourned. Duke so moved, seconded by Peters, motion PASSED and the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm, Saturday, August 10, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Griffith
Executive Director
FarmHouse Fraternity, Inc.