

Minutes
Northwestern College Alumni Society annual meeting
Luther Preparatory School, Watertown, Wisconsin
May 23, 2018

The 140th annual meeting of the Northwestern College Alumni Society was called to order by the society chairman, Rev. Prof. Alan Siggelkow, NWC '65, at 4:00 p.m. Attendance was around 90; 52 ballots were cast. President Matthew Crass of LPS welcomed the members of the alumni society to the LPS campus. He also reported that just over 65% of this year's LPS graduates are planning on going on to MLC to prepare for the preaching or teaching ministry. Especially heartening was the fact that 38 of the LPS class of '18 graduates have enrolled in the Studies in Pastoral Ministries track at MLC. This is certainly a reason to rejoice, given the acute shortage of pastors that our WELS is currently experiencing.

Rev. Prof. John Brenner presented the Chronicler's report for 2018. Noteworthy was the fact that one of the NWC graduates who entered glory in 2018, the Rev. Herbert Birner, class of 1938, was the oldest living graduate of NWC. The Chronicler's report is attached to the minutes.

Rev. Edward Lindemann, chairman of the Elections Committee, presented the ballot. Elections were held for three positions: president, 2nd vice-president and secretary. It was noted that the current 2nd vice-president, the Rev. John Gawrisch, did not wish to stand for re-election; the current secretary, Rev. Martin Schulz, asked to be relieved of duty. The motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the ballot as presented. Voting then took place.

The minutes of the 2017 annual meeting were sent electronically in December to all those whose e-mail addresses are known to the society. Hard copies of the minutes were provided for the attendees at the meeting. After remarks by last year's secretary pro tem and an opportunity to quickly review the minutes and ask questions, a motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the 2017 meeting minutes as presented.

Prof. Siggelkow proceeded by calling the roll by class year. The oldest graduate present was the Rev. Carl Voss, class of 1951. Attending society members who had graduated from Northwestern Prep but did not graduate from NWC were also recognized. It was noted that the prep class of 1968, observing their 50th anniversary, was well represented at the meeting. George Hackbarth, NW Prep, class of 1945 was also given special recognition.

The Rev. Timothy Spaude presented the Treasurer's report, which is attached. The report included a simple numerical report and a narrative. Our Operating Fund balance as of March 31, 2018, was \$6,481. The Presidents' Fund balance on the same date was \$219, 219. Rev. Spaude reported that for the third year in a row, the society's income was greater than its expenses. Cost savings that have helped us include making one of our two mailings electronic only; holding our annual meeting at LPS; and volunteer help from the St. Jacobi, Greenfield (WI) adult Bible class in preparing the paper mailing. Rev. Spaude encouraged the society to repay the \$5,000 that was transferred from the Presidents' Fund to the Operating Fund to meet expenses in 2015. He also encouraged the members present to remember the NWC Alumni Society in their wills and to encourage other alumni to do the same. As the Presidents' Fund grows the Executive Committee will be able to raise the amount of scholarships to encourage young men in their preparation for the ministry. A motion was made, seconded and carried to transfer the \$5,000 that had been borrowed from the President's Fund in 2015 back into that fund from our Operating Fund.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the treasurer's report.

Prof. Siggelkow introduced Prof. Ross Stelljes of Martin Luther College, who introduced the assembly to the young men recommended by the Studies in Pastoral Ministry faculty at MLC as recipients of the 2018 NWC Alumni Society Presidents' Fund grants. This year each grant was for \$1,000. The award recipients were introduced via power point slides; thank you letters from each of the recipients were also read. The following are the recipients of the 2018 Presidents' Fund awards:

<u>Recipient</u>	<u>NWC President/area award</u>
Matthew Zeng	President Robert Voss award in the area of student government
Nicolas Gartner	President Robert Voss award in the area of student life (activities)
Jeremiah Wallander	President John Braun award in the area of leadership
Reuben Nitz	President John Braun award in the area of English
Benjamin Kieta	President Carleton Toppe aware in the area of GPA and religion
Joel Hopper	President E.E. Kowalke award in the area of Biblical languages
Christian Willick	President August Ernst award in the area of confessional languages (German)
Christian Arnold	President August Ernst award in the area of confessional languages (German and Latin)
Jacob Ungemach	President Lewis Thompson award in the area of worship and music

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the action of the alumni Praesidium in authorizing these awards.

Rev. Lindemann announced the results of the elections: Prof. Alan Siggelkow was re-elected as society president; Prof. Joel Otto is our new second vice-president; Pastor Richard Lehmann will serve as our treasurer. The Nominating Committee was thanked for its work.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to increase the Presidents' Fund scholarship awards from \$1000 to \$1500 beginning with the 2019 recipients.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendation by the Praesidium to commit \$6900 toward repairing the bell tower on the LPS campus, originally a gift from the NWC Alumni Society. After some discussion and the fact that early bids indicate that the entire project will be more costly than at first anticipated, the motion was withdrawn. The members of the Praesidium will monitor the situation and come back to the society with a further report by next year's meeting. It is quite possible that this project will require a fund-raising appeal to society members.

President Siggelkow reported that the Praesidium, on behalf of the society, still plans to purchase a display case featuring items of interest from NWC and NWPS history. We anticipate the cost to be about \$2000. Work on this project is ongoing. The committee also wishes to commission a sign to be placed near the bell tower noting that the tower was a gift to the campus from the NWC Alumni Society.

The Tontine Committee is still accepting items for the Tontine. Etched NWC glasses are also available through that committee.

Chairman Siggelkow requested volunteers to work on completing a printed directory of all graduates from NWC. Pastor David Plocher volunteered to undertake this project. Pastor Plocher was thanked for his willingness to serve.

Chairman Siggelkow, on behalf of the Praesidium and the society, issued the customary thank-you's to those who have helped carry out the society's business in the past year:

- Mary Siggelkow, who serves as the society's office secretary and keeps records of both NWC and NWPS graduates and receives and records all gifts and dues payments
- all alumni members who served on projects and committees during the past year
- the business office of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, including business manager Brian Treichel, and especially Lori Guse and Carol Puglisi
- the administration, faculty and staff of Luther Preparatory School, especially Sue Boulden and Fran Brickner

There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the business meeting at 4:00 p.m.

A buffet dinner was served to the attendees by the food service staff of Luther Preparatory School.

After dinner speakers included Richard Lehmann, Northwestern Prep, '68 - Prep 50th anniversary class

Philip Heyer, NWC, '78 - NWC 40th anniversary class

Peter Naumann, NWC '68 - NWC 50th anniversary class

Ed Lindemann, NWC '58 - NWC 60th anniversary class

The evening closed with the singing by the assembly of the "Alma Mater" and the school song.

Respectfully submitted,
Harlyn J. Kuschel, NWC '67
Secretary pro tem