

Elder Court Call June 2, 2011

Present on the call:

Terry Jones

John Campbell

Allan

John de Strakosch

Roger Cox

Terry Atzen

Check In.

Website Report: Progress continues.

International:

Terry J reported that Australia has shown interest in hosting WEG. Waiting to receive application so that clarification as to what year they intend to host is made clear.

Ritual Elder Report:

John shared what is going on right now in the roll of ritual elder coordinator. A large part (not the only part) is to track men who are moving into or through the process of becoming ritual elders. He shared how that part of his job works, how men often ask for exceptions to the existing protocols for becoming ritual elders. He is currently working on two or three cases like this.

Also, John is working with the Ritual Elder Committee on amendments to the Certification Protocol For Ritual Elders. Principle among these is that elder

definitions, until now exclusively found in the protocol, may be removed from the protocol if they will be moved to the new Guidebook. Any recommended changes in the RE protocol would be voted on at the Ritual Elder Council meeting at U-sage and, if passed, would return to the Elder Council for ratification.

Later in the call (See below under “Guidbook Discussion”), in conjunction with Terry Jones' presentation on the 'guidebook', John suggested definitions for inclusion at the beginning of the guidebook. Some are definitions as they already exist (see prior paragraph), and others are possible add-ons to clarify various elder roles. Terry J suggested that they might not all be included together, but rather spread into appropriate sections of the Guidebook. The ritual elder definition recommendations are being finalized by the ritual elder committee, and John will inform the Court on the outcome of the process. He expects the various motions to pass intact.

#### USAGE Report:

Allan reported as follows:

1. We have confirmed Robert Moore as the keynote speaker for Thursday night (Oct. 27)
2. Doug Von Koss will be available to provide music and movement. We may ask him to provide some of this early in the morning before breakfast. Other times are yet to be determined.
3. Rosemary Cox will lead the women's retreat at the Apple Tree Inn on Friday and Saturday.
4. Linda Brooks is working with Kirby Benson, Scott Lederman to help plan the Thursday evening activities when men and women will be together. She will

also work with those who plan Saturday evening and Sunday morning when again men and women will be at the campground.

5. Rod Clay is working on logistics. He and others from the Central Plains Community will be taking care of transportation to and from the Des Moines airport for those attendees who will fly. The Central Plains LKS men will provide at least one sweat during the USAGE. Rod is working to get a block of rooms set aside at the Apple Tree Inn for women and for those men who choose to stay there rather than on the campsite. What is needed is a MKP credit card to hold the rooms. Allan will work to move this along.

6. On the May 26 conference call the USAGE Planning Committee brainstormed some possible topics for Friday and Saturday. Among those under consideration are:

- a. Intervention for the death spiral (older men facing the unknown of their later years can become depressed or have feelings of despair)
- b. What is an elder's job/function? (much to explore here)
- c. Personality and Soul\
- d. Androgyny
- e. Engaging elders in local communities (How reach out to get elders involved?)

Allan has sent all the necessary information to Keith Jarvis who is now preparing the Registration Webpage. **(NOTE:As of Saturday, June 5, the website is ready to receive registrants--Allan is working on an official announcement to send to potential registrants).**

Allan is waiting to receive information from both Robert Moore and Rosemary Cox which will briefly describe what each will be doing in their presentations. These will be posted to the Registration webpage under "Program."

Guidebook Discussion:

John de presented proposed the following language for the Guidebook:

Within the MKP an "Elder" is an initiated man who is at least 50 years old. (I suspect this one may change before long anyway.)

"Declared Elder" is an elder who has self-chosen to serve by declaring himself an elder of and in his community and within MKP. He further intends to integrate Elder qualities more fully into his life.

Declared elders of MKP make up the "Elder Body."

"Elder Council" is constituted by the Declared Elders who choose to sit and participate with the Elders in their business meetings. These meetings are held semi-annually, once at the Annual MKP Business meeting and again at the Annual World Elder Gathering.

A "Ritual Elder" is a declared elder who has been certified, as detailed in the 'Certification Protocol For Ritual Elders', to serve as the lead elder on MKP New Warrior Training Adventure weekends.

Ritual Elders of MKP make up the "Ritual Elder Body."

"Ritual Elder Council" is constituted by the Ritual Elders who choose to sit and participate with the Elders in their business meetings. These meetings are held semi-annually, once at the Annual MKP Business meeting and again at the Annual World Elder Gathering.

The Court Call ended with each Checking Out.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Atzen  
Court Scribe