Grand Council

VENERABLE CLAMPATRIARCHS OF

E Clampus Vitus®

INCORPORATED

A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION FOUNDED 4005 B.C.

P.O Box 2044. Columbia CA 95310

February 13, 2010

All Chapters and Outposts

To the Officers and Greybeards:

It is our sad duty to inform you that the Major William Downie chapter #1849 has had its charter revoked and is no longer a part of E Clampus Vitus. Enclosed, you will find a copy of the letter informing the Officers and Greybeards of that group of the action taken by the Board of Proctors on behalf of E Clampus Vitus.

This decision was reached after a lengthy discussion and careful deliberation by the Board of Proctors, and was a unanimous decision. Testimony in written and oral form was presented by fourteen persons including seven XSNGHs, two separate legal opinions regarding violations of our Order's rules and the law, four representatives from the chapter and the complainant. After this investigation into the facts it was clear to the Board of Proctors that no other action was possible and the charter had to be revoked.

Basically, in order to be a Chapter of E Clampus Vitus you must do four simple things:

(1) Obtain and submit proof of liability insurance
(2) Obtain and submit proof of liquor liability insurance if alcohol is sold or provided
(3) Pay chapter dues
(4) Follow the Grand Council rules for the administration of PBCs and initiation

Really, that's rather simple. While we are a historical organization and take the business of plaque dedication and history serious, it is not required to place plaques. Follow those four points above, maintain some sort of reverence for history and your chapter is fine. If you don't want to be members of E Clampus Vitus, that is your decision. Because in reality we don't revoke charters - they are forfeited by the chapters due to their failure to follow those four points listed above.

In the Downieville matter numerous serious violations of the rules regarding the handling of Poor Blind Candidates occurred. A large part of the problem was the failure of the Officers and Greybeards to control the situation, and monitor the process. Red Shirts were not only allowed to interfere with the handling of the PBCs, but were in some instances instructing the Hangman crew as to what to do to and with the PBCs.

Neophytes and untrained individuals should not be allowed to "run the show" in regard to the chapter's responsibility towards the PBCs. It is the responsibility of the Officers and Greybeards to maintain control at all times to see that these sort of things do not happen.

The past several years have seen the dissolution of one Outpost and the revocation of the charters of three Chapters. These were not political decisions or personality driven decisions.

They were decisions made for the good of the Order. We would hope that all chapters of the Order understand the world in which we now find ourselves simply does not allow for living in the past. We are a history-oriented organization. But we don't want to be history.

Please share these two letters with your boards and general membership. Make sure your Hangman, and crew, Officers and Greybeards, and anyone dealing with PBCs is aware of the rules and understand them. A copy of the rules is enclosed.

As stated in the letter to the former chapter, all members of the former chapter that were in good standing prior to the revocation are still Clampers and Brothers and welcome to attend ECV functions - with the understanding that seemly decorum prevails while attending those functions, and your chapter's rules are followed. All XNGHs of the former chapter are still recognized as such.

Clampfaithfuly,

Gary Glud for Tom Crawford

cc: Board of Proctors
All XSNGHs
All PXPs