

Ahepa Traveler

CHAPTERS THROUGHOUT NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN NEVADA

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September/Fall 2008

Greece 2008

by Jan Spanos, PDG

. . . and so it began. . . a trip to the beloved homeland of my parents, grandparents and great-grand parents. Home to Greece. . . home to the heart of our spirit. Leaving California by United Airlines to Europe was, I believe a most appropriate entree into a land of many unknowns, and yet I felt protected surrounded by the red, white and blue of United.

I cannot tell you the feelings that went running through my mind and heart as my feet touched Greek land and I was breathing the air of history at 1:00 in the morning of July 1. Amazing!!! As our personal taxi driver George Bizos, whisked us into the heart of Athens to an old neighborhood known as Pangrati the sights and were a blur but the feeling was of comfort in my soul. . .I had come home!

The Old Agora, the Roman ruins and modern digs, the view of the ancient Acropolis and the Parthenon, the venue of the recent Olympics, the National Gardens, the modern Zappion, street vendors, and the traditional wanderings through very old and established neighborhoods. The smell of freshly brewed coffee, the sweet voices of children, their parents and their grandparents and the ever ending games of "Tvali".

The members of our sister chapters in Greece greeted all of us with open arms, hugs and many kisses and as always the ultimate hostesses. The Karyatides was the first chapter estab-

lished in Athens, Greece and are still the guardians of the sisterhood there; as well as the matriarchs of the Penelopean Day Care Center. They are regal in appearance, stately in knowledge and careers and always willing to help the less fortunate. They are the epitome of ageless grace and service to humanity. They are the Greek women of legend and history.

We were warmly greeted and escorted to various activities by the members of the Hesperus Chapter the other Athenian Chapter and by the members of the Alkyonides of Glyfada, which is the "Greek American Chapter". We laughed, we cried and we reminisced. . .and we fought side by side to establish the Penelopean Day Care Center as a National Project of the Daughters of Penelope worldwide.

No matter where I went, no matter where I ate, I was not considered or treated as part of the "Despora" but as a local "Dopia" . . . I not once felt that I was in the company of strangers, but rather with my extended family.

How lucky can one person be, to meet new friends, to greet old friends and to be elected to the Grand Lodge all in one short trip? I can tell you from personal experience, that was not luck, but fate. . .and the ability for one heart to recognize in another the same yearnings, goals and passions. We are united, no matter where we live; be it in Australia, Canada, Europe or America, we are Sisters of the heart and of the soul. We are all Daughters of Penelope! ❖

Journey to Greece 2008

The American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), the largest and oldest association of American citizens of Greek heritage and Philhellenes, and the University of Indianapolis, a top tier NCA accredited American University, have joined forces for the third year to offer an unforgettable experience to young Greek American students at the University's Campus in Athens.

The AHEPA Educational Foundation's Journey to Greece program is uniquely designed to immerse young Greek American students in a wonderful learning experience celebrating Greek society, history and culture. Under the direction of Past Supreme President, Dr. James F. Dimitriou, the UINDY/AHEPA program has grown significantly in numbers over the last three years. This year the program has been offered in two sessions, designed for students to participate in the AHEPA 86th Annual Supreme Convention held in Athens. The Journey to Greece for 2008 has offered two sessions for over 80 students to participate and earn university credit while visiting Greece! Students were able to take two 3 unit courses in Greek language, art and archeology, philosophy and history while participating in a unique pro-

The 2008 Journey to Greece Session #2 started its very busy second week with a host of activities, classes and special events! After concluding a very successful first week of the program

continued on page 10

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Article III – This Order shall be non-partisan in politics and non sectarian in religion. All partisan political and all sectarian religious discussions are prohibited in any official deliberations thereof.

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page 2

AHEPA District Governor's Message



Stephen Miller District Governor

By the time you receive this issue of the Traveler of summer will be almost over. What ever you did or where ever you traveled I hope you had a grand time with your family and friends.

Along with 6 other Ahepans, Diamond Leos, of the San Francisco, Chris Rockas and Bob Sexton, of the Fresno Chapter, myself and Agamemnon Zafiratos of the Oakland Chapter, Stamus Cocoles

of the Modesto Chapter and Gus Hazifotis of the San Jose Chapter we attended the 86Th Supreme Convention held in Athens Greece. The good will and positive showing of Ahepa to Athens and Greece was evident thought- out the week. Unfortunately very little usual Ahepa business was conducted. The National Project Committee did not meet so I could not present the motion passed at the Oakland Chapter level and at the District 21 level in regard to the HAVM.

The same Supreme Lodge officers where re-elected so there was none of the usual campaign talks. The Legislation Committee brought to the Convention floor reforms to guide the Lodges when a Chapter closes so the assets go to the Supreme Lodge and not to the States, which was passed at the election. A very spirited session was held in regard to the age for the Sons of Pericles. Right now the age range is 14 to 27 years. After some very adamant discussion the subject was allowed to Be discussed on the floor. Naturally the Supreme Lodge of the Sons did not want to change the age limit. A good argument was put forth that the young men over 21 should be in the local Chapters to bring a youth full view and help with recruiting younger members, which I am sure you will agree with me, every Chapter needs. A motion was made to limit the age to 18 years. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken, first by voice and then to confirm by hand. The motion lost by a small margin. I am sure that at the San Francisco Convention the subject will be brought up again. If the members of District 21 have any strong opinions be sure to attend the Legislation session to be held and be on the Convention floor and vote.

The Visitation Schedule is posted in this issue of the Traveler. I will be sending the information to the Chapter President And Secretaries. Hopefully there will be no changes. Sylvia, the DOP DG and I worked very hard to do our best to accommodate the Chapter's requests. Please look at the Visitation Schedule and note the Conference and Convention dates at the bottom of the page.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the Fall Conference October 18Th in Oakland. The registration form will be available shortly.

The District Lodges of the Ahepa and DOP are looking forward to another great year.

Steve Miller DG #21

AHEPA District Governor's Message

Fall Greetings from the Daughters of Penelope District Governor

I hope all of you are having an enjoyable summer. Once again as we prepare to start our year with monthly meetings and fun events, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 2008 District Convention delegation for allowing me to head our District again this year. I look forward to another exciting year. Other members of



Sylvia Golfes District Governor

your "newly" elected District Lodge include: Lt. Governor, Margo Drosos; Secretary, Paulette Rishard; Treasurer, Foula Vasilogiorgis; Marshal, Chrisanthy Panagopoulos; Advisor, Manthea Kartinos; Maids of Athena Advisor, Louise Metaxas. Joanne Booras, PGO, PDG, has been appointed as Scholarship Chairman.

Our 2008-2009 District Penelope of the Year is Vivian Leos, from Eos #1 in San Francisco. I would also like to express congratulations to the Fresno AHEPA Family for hosting the 2008 District Convention.

One of the goals of the District Lodge this year is to work on building our District. We need young blood to continue in the shoes of our strong Lifetime Sisters. It takes strong Chapters to make a successful vibrant District.

As I have said before, growth is essential to our AHEPA Family: it is my belief that the best way to keep moving forward, is to not only promote the Daughters of Penelope, but also the Maids of Athena and the Sons of Pericles. Let us keep in mind that today's Sons and Maids are tomorrow's Ahepans and Daughters.

District 21 had a delegation of 12 Sisters from various Chapters representing our District at the Supreme Convention in Athens, Greece. Once again we met old friends and made new ones from Greece, Canada and Australia as we started and completed the business of the convention. One of the highlights of the Convention was the truly memorable trip to the Penelopean Day Care Center. The Center has now been adopted as a Permanent National Project for the Daughters of Penelope.

Congratulations go to Jan Spanos, Past District Governor, Artemis #5, on her election to the Grand Lodge as Grand Governor Zone IV. She will be District #21's Liaison Officer.

Congratulations to our newly elected Grand Lodge Officers which include: Grand President, Barbara Stavis Wolf; Grand Vice-President, Elaine Sampanis; Canadian President, Diane Polesello Lygouriatis; Grand Secretary, Christine Constantine; Grand Treasurer, Nicky Stamoulis; Grand Governor Zone I, Anna-Helene Panagakos; Grand Governor Zone II, Debbie Fletcher; Grand Governor Zone IV, Jan Spanos; and Grand Advisor Maids of Athena, Joanne Saltas. The 2008 National Penelope of the Year is Aglia Lilli Radu of District #11.

District 21 Honored in Greece

by Jan Spanos, PDG

As the 2008 Supreme Convention convened in Athens Greece on July 2, Sylvia Golfes, Daughters of Penelope 2008-2009 District Governor, nominated Diane Petersen, PDG, PGG for the Position of Convention Secretary. Diane was elected by acclimation since she was unopposed. The Convention started on a rather unusual downbeat in that there was no recorder for the verbatim minutes, which delayed the start by one hour. Unable to locate a recorder, Diane and Convention Vice Chairman Demie Thomas scribbled minutes as quickly as they could by long hand.

District 21Daughters of Penelope were represented by Governor Sylvia Golfes, Past District Governors, Nitsa Dariotis, Niki Lenes, Diane Petersen and Jan Spanos. Other members in attendance included: Litsa Miller, Sophia Goultas, Cathy Photopoulos, Mary Cocoles, Helen Sexton, Vivian Leos and Helen Rockas.

The convention deliberations would take an unusual turn in that there would be only 2 half-day sessions plus the voting session, where Jan Spanos was elected and later installed as Grand Governor of Zone IV. Committees deliberated and reported in record time. Legislative changes pertained only to the Maids of Athena and the 2008-2009 Budget presented was unchallenged. The Projects committee was presented with only 4 items, three of which were already on the menu and with the addition of the Penelopean Day Care Center in Athens. So all four (4) projects are now mandatory and are: The Penelopean Day Care Center - Athens, Greece, The Sylvester Cancer Research Center - Miami, Florida, The Penelope House - Mobile, Alabama, The Daughters of Penelope Foundation INC - National Headquarters

Please note that individual chapters MUST meet ALL obligations in order to have eligible delegates and candidates seated at Supreme Conventions.

The Maids of Athena and Sons of

Pericles were not in session in Athens they met at a separate location in New Orleans, where they held their respective National elections. Two Grand Lodge Officers of the Maids and one of Sons were present in Greece to give their reports. The two Orders collected \$10,000 in the 2007-2008 year for their annual project of Cooley's Anemia. Part of the money collected was through a raffle with various wonderful prizes, first prize winner was our own Mary Chicos of EOS #1 with a round trip ticket for two to Greece. . Congratulations Mary (and Sam too).

The American Archdiocesan Youth Choir provided entertainment at the Grand Banquet at the convention. Their selections were amazing and beyond all expectations.

The Olive Tree issue remains on hold, although of the \$30,000 collected by the Daughters of Penelope, \$10,000 has already been spent on the trees and the remaining \$20,000 went toward the repairing of a village well in one of the fire devastated areas of the Peleponesos. The Canadian Daughters donated \$50,000 to the Olive Tree project with their presentation of a check in that amount to the District Governor of District 25.



Santa Clara Marriott Hotel

June 18 - 21, 2009

DOP message continued from page 3

Congratulations are also extended to the newly elected Grand Lodge of the Maids of Athena: Stephanis Maniatis, Grand President of Bethesda, MD: Sia Zois, Grand Vice President of Dayton, Ohio: Victoria Pavlopoulos, Grand Secretary of Atlanta, GA: Kiki Amanatidis, Grand Treasurer of Scottsdale, AZ: Marianthe Kolokithas, Grand Governor of Charleston, SC.

The AHEPA Family Tri-District Governors Conference will be September 13, 2008, in Washington, D.C. will be held at Ritz-Carleton Hotel.

The District Fall Conference to be hosted by the Oakland AHEPA Family, is scheduled for Saturday October 18, 2008. I encourage representation from each of our 12 chapters, as you will be getting information presented at the annual District Governor's Conference to help you in setting your goals and events for this year.

The 2009 Supreme Convention as you all know will be held in San Francisco. Our own Mary Chicos, PGG, PDG has been selected to be the 2009 Convention Coordinator for the Daughters of Penelope. The dates to remember are June 29, 2009 – July 5, 2009. More information will be forthcoming.

As communication is key in today's world, therefore, please advise me of events in your Chapter, so that I may include them in my monthly bulletins as well as updating your respective Chapter's page on our District website. If there is ever anything that I can do for your Chapter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

All members of the District Lodge, look forward to meeting and chatting with you during our Chapter visitations. (Please see the proposed Visitation Schedule in this issue of the Traveler.) •

The Oakland AHEPA Family

is honored to host the

GOLDEN GATE DISTRICT 21 Fall Conference

Saturday, October 18, 2008

9:00 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast 10:15 a.m. Joint Opening Session 12:00 noon Lunch 1:30 p.m. Separate Meetings

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Ascension 4700 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, CA 94602

Registration Fee: \$30 per person includes Continental Breakfast and Luncheon

Deadline to register is Friday, October 10, 2008.

(Please detach and mail with payment)

AHEPA/Daughter of Penelope Fall Conference Registration Form

Registration is due by **Friday, October 10, 2008.**Make Checks in the amount of \$30 payable to AHEPA 171

Name:	
Address:	
City:	
Phone Number: _()	Email:
Chapter Name:	

Send Reservation Forms to:

AHEPA Fall Conference c/o Dria Fearn 733 Longridge Rd. Oakland, CA 94610 (510) 451-3490 ♦ driafearn@gmail.com

Sparta Chapter #18 Stockton

by P. J. Rishard, District 21 Secretary



Sparta Chapter Daughters of Penelope sister Stephanie Panagopoulos wed her fiancé Anthony de Melo on Saturday, June 7, 2008 at the splendid St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church in Stockton, CA. Some 250 guests enjoyed the darling little flower girls, who were precious to watch as they strewed, dumped and picked up petals along the bridal path to the altar, much to Fr. Luke Palumbis' delight. Sparta Chapter Vice President and District #21 Marshal, Chrisanthy Panagopoulos (sister of the bride) served as maid of honor. Stephanie was a vision in a unique and gorgeous gown and her proud father AHEPAN Bill Panagopoulos was just bursting with pride. The groom, too, was so happy Fr. Luke told him to "stop grinning, you will be able to kiss her soon!" The attendants enhanced the rite with their beauty. The reception at the beautiful Stockton Golf and Country Club rivaled any celebrity Sparkling waterways, ships, boats, sprawling greens and rolling vistas, along with wonderful appetizers and drinks aided the guests in enjoying a spectacular time. A deejay played some funky music and revelers of all ages joined in. Later, the talented Greek band FOTIA performed. The dance floor was so crowded one lady lost a shoe and someone stepped on the bride's dress. None of this mattered as everyone joined in the joy of this union - a beautiful Greek woman and her handsome Portuguese man. The toasts were humorous, heartfelt and sincere. The maid of honor wrote a special poem to her sister and it was a sensation. The torch has now passed and Chrisanthy is now the poet laureate

of Sparta #18. Past District Governor, JoAnne Panagopoulos (mother of the bride) danced the night away. The parents of this pair were absolutely over the moon with this union. The groom's mother noted that people came from as far away as England to attend this most audacious event. The couple is said to have plans to honeymoon in Costa Rica. We wish them the best of everything. Yasoo!

Life Member Has 90th Birthday Gala

District #21 Secretary and President of Sparta #18, P. J. Rishard, Sparta sister Jaye Stevens, District #21 Treasurer, Foula Vasilogiorgis and Marko Rishard visited beautiful Portland Oregon to celebrate the 90th birthday of P. J.'s mother and Jaye and Marko's Yiayia, Katherine Poulos. Sister Katherine is a life member of the Daughters of Penelope, having joined Hydra Chapter, Green River WY in the 1940's. She was feted at a catered dinner and cocktail party at the lovely home of her daughter Elena Karussos. The weather was clear and gorgeous as was the beautiful City of Roses. Many may remember Katherine helping at the St. Basil Food Festival inner bar about two years ago. May she live long and prosper.

Fresno hosted this year's District AHEPA/Daughters convention. The Officers of the District 21 Daughters of Penelope Lodge were all dressed in navy suits when Fr. James Pappas of St. George Greek Orthodox Church walked into a luncheon to bless the food. He confessed his fear of these "women in blue" while at the dais. Asked if they reminded him of the Beatles and their "Blue Meanies", he replied that they looked like MEN IN BLACK. Amused by the intimated clergyman, these formidable and frightening females appeared at the next lunch in shades ala Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones. Fr. Pappas could not conquer his fear and did not show up. The AHEPA chaplain was compelled to lead the prayer. The District Officers reigned supreme -- Power to the Daughters!!!! Message to Fr. James - "Be afraid, be very afraid."

NOTE: Fresno really rolled out the red carpet and hosted an A-Class event and we thank them all. ❖

Chapter #246 Modesto

Modesto AHEPA Family Summer BBQ



AHEPA Chapter 246 and Daughters of Penelope had their Summer BBQ hosted by Brother Jeff & Dena Brown. Father Jon Magoulias gave blessings to guide us in our new year. The torch was passed from Past President Stamus Cocoles to Alexander Bazos (Pres), Bob Rosso (VP) and Jeff Brown (Sec.). We thank our Brother and District Governor Steve Miller for graciously being present for the installation. Great company, good food was had by all. Kudos goes to our live band Nick & George Parisis, Mena Elshamey playing great Cretan music. Sound system was handled by Brother Paul Forakis, and Dimitri Simvoulakis. We were also honored to socialize with District Warden Bill Anton and Litsa Miller. Our new President would like to say; "No leader can see any accomplishments without great people supporting AHEPA's vision."

Raking the leaves, munch'n the grapes, cross fingers for rain, plan attend our **AHEPA** Fall Conference where we will exchange views again!

Argie Steve Gionis

3-4 7:00pm Fri/Sat Western Reg. Conf. Reno Circus Circus 11 10:00am Saturday Fresno St. George Church 14 6:30pm Tuesday Modesto Annunciation Church 18 10:00am Saturday Fall Conference Oakland November 11 6:30pm Tuesday San Jose St. Nicholas Church 20 6:30pm Thursday San Mateo Burlingame Womens Contractory 3 11:30am Saturday Wednesday 10 7:00pm Wednesday 15 12:00pm Thursday Founders Day San Francisco 24 10:00am Saturday Vallejo St. Constantine & Helestruary 10 6:30pm Tuesday Oakland Ascension Cathedral	June/Ju 18-2	-	District Conv	antina	San Jose	Santa Clara Marriott Ho
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Chapter #151 Fresno

by Chris E. Rockas, PDG

This column is written from the City and the State University of California Fresno who have produced the College World Series Baseball Champs. (Fresno Bulldogs).

This is a follow up by the Champs of District #21 Conventions. Our 2008 District Convention was a "smashing" success. Although the normal turnout left something to be desired, the functions were well done, timely and financially successful. Our business meetings solved some problems, discussed other problems plaguing our district and set the course for our 2008-09 term. Much

credit for our successful district convention goes to co-chairs Bill Booras and Madelyn Jones and Presidents Michael Makredes and Helen Sexton.

The Saturday night Glendi held at the St. George Greek Orthodox Church patio with music by Fotia was the highlight of the convention. The pre-convention musical at Roger Rocka Dinner Theatre set the tone for the entire weekend.

We ordered good weather - just right- to overcome previous convention complaints. I do believe the Fresno AHEPA Family set a new higher standard as to what district conventions should be like. (I sprained my arm over this statement patting us on the back).

The Fresno AHEPA Family was

well represented at the National AHE-PA Convention held in Athens, Greece. Brother Robert Sexton, Sister Helen Sexton, Brother Chris Rockas and Sister Helen Rockas represented Fresno. We met other members of our District #21. They all were a credit to our respective organizations. District #25 of Greece did a Yo Mans job and had excellent events planned for our stay. The business sessions of the Daughters were solid, productive and efficient. The same cannot be said for the Ahepa business sessions, which were chaotic, inefficient, disjointed, and put bluntly one big mess. The blame lays squarely on the leadership of our AHEPA Order and the executive officers in Washington, D.C. *

Chapter #89 Reno



Nikki Feister, Courtney and Shannon

Daughters of Penelope recently Initiated Courtney Barton the daughter of member Nikki Feister. Courtney will attend college in the Fall so we were happy to have her join prior to her departure. Courtney's sister Shannon was initiated in March 2008.

Diana Maragakis, daughter of Mary and Manos Maragakis has been selected as the Daughters of Penelope Scholarship recipient. She plans are to attend the University of Nevada, Reno.

Kalli Mannos, daughter of Penelope and daughter of Tom and Agnes Mannos (DOP President Elis Chapter 89) earned a place on the Dean's list for the 2008 spring semester at the University of Nevada. Kalli's major is in Nutritional Science, she will be a Senior at UNR this fall.



As part of our Literacy Project, Dorothy Delianides and Georgene Lindsey presented 14 books of "The Land of Zeus" to the Washoe County Library System.



Tania Abdo, Agnes Mannos, Bernice Ferrall. Joan Lagios.



Dorothy Delianides, Nikki Feister ,Olga Makris, Bernice Ferrall, Joan Lagios, Teddi Cannellos, Barb Arnold, Tania Abdo, Courtney Feister (Seated).

Daughters of Penelope welcomes back our existing officers for the 2008/2009 year: Agnes Mannos, President; Bernice Ferrall, Vice-President; Joan Lagios, Corresponding Secretary; Tania Abdo, Recording Secretary; Teddi Cannellos Treasurer. Board Members: Dorothy Delianides, Alex Demetras.

2009
Supreme Convention
San Francisco
June 29, 2009
thru
July 5, 2009

San Francisco in 2009

by Jan Spanos, PDG

We are in the begins of anticipation and hard work as the 80th Anniversary of the founding of the Daughters of Penelope is culminated next summer with the convening of the 2009 Supreme Convention in Golden Gate District 21 and in the city of our founding San Francisco.

It is with mega thanks to Mary Chicos, that the Supreme Convention comes to San Francisco for this very special celebration.

Convention headquarters will be the totally fabulous Hyatt Regency on the Embarcadero. This location will allow our guests from around the world access to the real San Francisco. Everything from Fisherman's Wharf to China Town and South of Market to the Heights of Mount Tam. . .cable cars and foot tours and of course shopping, eating and drinking at some of the world's best known establishments.

Grand President Barbara Stavis Wolf, named Mary Chicos as the host city Liaison / Coordinator for the Daughters of Penelope. So when Mary calls upon you for help, roll up your sleeves and become part of the living history of the Daughters of Penelope and the AHEPA Family.

The 2010 Supreme Convention will convene in Canada. . .more information in future articles as it becomes available.

Thank You. . . Thank You. . . Thank You!!!

A VERY Special thank you, to all of my Sisters and Brothers of Golden Gate District 21, most especially my home Chapter of Artemis 5 and AHEPA 153 for all of your love, support, guidance and advice as I embark on the next level of my service in the Daughters of Penelope as Grand Governor of Zone IV. I will act as the 2008-2008 Liaison to Districts 15, 21 and 22 as appointed by Grand President Barbara Stavis Wolf while we were in Greece.

AHEPA Family Newsletter









Plan to attend the Leadership Conference in Reno, NV or Tarpon Springs, FL. Send in your Registration Form so that we can properly plan this AHEPA Family event. Attend, you won't be disappointed.

This is an AHEPA Family event. AHEPA, DAUGHTERS, SONS & MAIDS.

Tarpon Springs, FL



October 3-4, 2008, Reno, NV

January 2-3, 2009, Tarpon Springs, FL



Registration Form

Use this Registration Form for either Leadership Conference.

Registration is \$50 for each Conference. Make check payable to AHEPA. Send Registration to KG Hazifotis, 5875 Meander Drive, San Jose, CA 95120

Name:	Phone:
Address:	Email:
	State: Zip:
	MOA Office/Title:
	What to expect
	Each Leadership Conference begins on Friday afternoon with "Meet the Presidents" followed by The "President's" Reception.
Sponsor\$	Saturday begins with the Leadership Conference, Awards Luncheon.

Leadership Conference Reno, NV

Donations in any amount appreciated

Total\$.....

Saturday begins with the Leadership Conference, Awards Luncheon, finishing the Leadership Conference with the "Good of the Order" followed by the "Meet the Speakers" Reception.

The Receptions allows access to the AHEPA Family Leadership, Speakers and promotes Fellowship. Sponsors are solicited to help offset the cost of the Awards Luncheon and the Receptions.

Who should attend? All AHEPA Family Officers and Members. The AHEPA Family is involved in their Community, They are leaders in their Greek Community, members of Parish Counsel and/or active in their church and other Professional and Community Organizations.

Meet the AHEPA Family Leadership We are bringing the AHEPA Family Leadership to you. An opportunity to meet one-on-one with AHEPA Family Leadership and Conference Speakers. An opportunity to meet your friends and and make new ones. Plan to attend. Become a Sponsor and send in your Registration in today.



Oakland AHEPA Family

by Ceil Koplos

"An Evening under the Stars" a dinner event benefiting the "Friends in Deed Fund" sponsored by the Daughters of Penelope, Echo Chapter #4, Oakland and chaired by Tula Sostchen. The "Gala" will be held at the home of Cathi and John Frangoulis, 1009 Pine Lane, Lafayette, California on Saturday, September 6, 2008. Admission is \$45 per person. For more information and reservations please contact Linda Cliff at (510) 566-5720 or Louise Metaxas at (510) 632-9112. Space is limited so make your reservations early. The event will include a silent auction, raffle, music and much more. Please join us to help women in crisis.

James T. Koplos Memorial Service. A two year memorial service was held recently at the Greek Orthodox Ascension Cathedral in loving memory of James Koplos. A luncheon was held at the Pescatore Restaurant at Jack London Square hosted by Ceil Koplos and family.



Left to right front row: Ron Villanueva, Theorora Hamilton, Linda Cliff, Chad Hamilton, Baby Gracie Hamilton, Amy Hamilton, Nick Chiotras, Ceil Koplos, Sophia Paris, Louise Metaxas and George Paris. Second row: Kim Hamilton, Don Cliff, Harry Metaxas, Suzanne Villanueva, Mary Ann Gipson and Ben Gipson.

Water Rationing in the East Bay. A public hearing was held regarding the implementation of a water rationing plan. The proposed plan included raising the water rates during the drought period beginning August 1, 2008. Several speakers at the hearing expressed their concerns and protesting the water rationing plan as "one size does not fit all." Among the speakers, each being allowed three minutes, was Nick C. Chiotras who asked "what creative and innovative projects" are on the table presently to avoid water rationing. Also, past records should be used to make better and more realistic projections. Questioned why building permits were still being issued during a water shortage, why more storage capacity hadn't been built and why water delivery systems haven't been improved. At this point his three minutes were up and he thank the board for the opportunity to speak.

Journey to Greece continued from page 1

in conjunction with the AHEPA Supreme Convention, Week #2 was again eventful! On Sunday, July 5th, our students visited the Metropolis Cathedral of Athens, where Archbishop Demetrios of America presided over the Divine Liturgy. On this special occasion of His Eminence, officiated the Liturgy, the students attended and were filmed on Greek National Television. Following the services, the Archbishop graciously attended a nice reception at the nearby UINDY Cultural Center along with all the Journey to Greece students. Here, the Archbishop spent over an hour talking with the students and giving them an update on the situation with the Church in regard to both the meeting with the Patriarch and the Pope and an analysis of the current situation for the Ecumenical Patriarch.



Journey students at the Intercontinental Hotel, Athens for the AHEPA Convention Grand Banquet

Following the interesting morning, our students were hosted by Glyfada Chapter, HJ-2 to a nice relaxing afternoon at a pool party. The Glyfada Chapter offered a very nice BBQ meal and afternoon of swimming and enjoyment for all of the students. The Journey to Greece students wish to thank the officers and members of HJ-2 for their continued hospitality and support throughout the three years of our program!

After settling back into a week of classes, homework, exams and assignments, the students received a special VIP reception and "sneak preview" of the new Acropolis Museum that will not open to the general public until sometime in 2009. The museum tour was fantastic for our students to see first hand how so much effort has been made to bring the treasures of the Acropolis and the Parthenon Freezes to their new home. The new structure with class floors to see the newly discovered archeological site below as well as house the treasures under all natural lighting, is a remarkable experience for all!

After a full week of classes, the students turned in their assignments and class work before preparing for the fantastic 8 day/7 night cruise on board the EasyCruise ship, "EasyLife." The next week will prove to be another amazing adventure of the students visiting the wonderful sights of Kalymnos, Kos, Samos, Bodrum, Samos, Paros, Mykonos, and Syros, before returning to the campus for our final days of class. ❖



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