

GOLDEN GATE DISTRICT NO. 21



CHAPTERS THROUGHOUT NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN NEVADA

Volume 60, No. 1

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF DISTRICT No. 21

March/Spring 2012



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

GOLDEN GATE DISTRICT #21 DISTRICT CONVENTION

JUNE 7-10, 2012

THUNDER VALLEY CASINO
1200 Athens Avenue, Lincoln, CA 95648
(877) 468-8777

Hosted by Sacramento Ahepa Family

SPRING CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2012

9:30 AM

HOLY CROSS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
BELMONT

Hosted by the San Mateo Ahepa Family

See Page 7 for registration form

"AHEPA TRAVELER is published quarterly, four times a year March, June, September and December by Order of AHEPA, 3327 Lake Albano Circle, San Jose, CA 95135."

AHEPA TRAVELER is the official publication of Golden Gate District 21 Order of AHEPA (American-Hellenic-Educational-Progressive-Association). It is published and distributed to members and friends. There are thirty Ahepa, Daughters, Sons and Maids Chapters in Northern California and Western Nevada.

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.

EDITORIAL STAFF - AHEPA TRAVELER

BILL CHRISTIE, Editor

Editorial Staff for

AHEPA and AUXILIARIES

3327 Lake Albano Circle • San Jose, CA 95135

408 891-9225 FAX 408 292-9887

Email: billchristie1@mac.com

Traveler Ads Manager

Bill Booras

1125 S. Clovis Ave., #104, Fresno, CA 93727

Tel/Fax: 559 255-3367

Email: vasiliosbooras@att.net

Daughters of Penelope Traveler Editor

Chrisanthi Panagopoulos

1406 Woodcreek Wy., Stockton, CA 95209

209 639-4688

Email: krisont08@comcast.net

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JUNE 1, 2012**

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Will Travel**



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**AHEPA DISTRICT LODGE
2011-2012**

Website: www.ahepa21.org

District Governor

Robert D. Sexton

2875 Prescott Ave., Clovis, CA 93619

559 325-7528 Email: rdsexton57@gmail.com

District Lt. Governor

Tom Chiarchianis

507 Chabot Ave., Modesto, CA 95354

209 576-1665 Email: tchiarchianis@yahoo.com

District Secretary

Bill Booras, PDG

1125 S. Clovis Ave. #104, Fresno, CA 93727

559 255-3367 Email: vasiliosbooras@att.net

District Treasurer

Alex Bazos

848 Winery Way, Modesto, CA 95356

209 529-1269 Email: alex@laserplusmod.com

District Marshal

Nick Johnson

1320 Poplar Ave, Pacifica, CA 94044

415 264-4789 Email: nick.johnson@cbnocal.com

District Warden

George Gianopoulos

2727 W. Bluff Ave #123, Fresno, CA 93711

559 432-4630 Email: gsqr@pacbell.net

District Chaplin

Steve Miller, PDG

430 E. Merle Ct., San Leandro, CA 94577

510 569-2876 Email: fogmog2@yahoo.com

District Advisor

Nick Pries, PDG

1420 Courtyard Dr., San Jose, CA 95118

408 978-8321 Email: xioti12@yahoo.com

Athletic Director

Stamus Cocolos

2105 Melville Pl., Modesto, CA 95356

209 545-1787 Email: scocolos@yahoo.com

District Executive Secretary

Bill Booras, PDG

1125 S. Clovis Ave. #104, Fresno, CA 93727

559 255-3367 Email: vasiliosbooras@att.net

District Auditor

Andrew Mastoras

5742 N. 4th St., Fresno, CA 93710

559 439-3311 Email: amastoras@comcast.net

Special Project Chairman

George S. Booras, PDG

P.O. Box 1556, Danville, CA 94526

925 736-1343 Email: gbooras@epri.com

District Legal Council

Steven Alfieris

P.O. Box 2686, Visalia, CA 93279

559 696-9691 Email: steve@alfierislaw.com

**DOP DISTRICT LODGE
2011-2012**

Website: www.dopdist21.com

District Governor

Helen Sexton

2875 Prescott Ave., Clovis, CA 93619

Hm 559 325-7528 Cell 559 970-8315

Email: h.valiou@sbcglobal.net

District Lt. Governor

Chrisanthi Panagopoulos

1406 Woodcreek Way, Stockton, CA 95209

Hm 209 957-3632 Cell 209 639-4688

Email: krisont08@comcast.net

District Secretary

Kathy Leles

1223 Pyrenees Ct., Tracy, CA 95304

Hm 209 835-7414 Cell 209 815-2935

Email: Kleles@pacbell.net

District Treasurer

Kathy La Giusa

811 F Street, Apt C-1 Davis, CA 95616-2284

Hm: 530-753-9566 Cell 530-902-0626

Email: klagiusa@yahoo.com

District Marshal

Brenda Johnson

1320 Poplar Avenue Pacifica, CA 94044

Hm 650-738-0908 Cell 415-264-0941

Email: brenda_joy@sbcglobal.net

District Lodge Advisor/MOA Advisor

Margo Drosos, PDG

1672 Carriage Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94568

Hm 925 932-3547 Cell 925 260-0954

Email: yasoumargo@astound.net

District Scholarship Chairman:

Joanne Booras, PGP

P. O. Box 1556, Danville, CA 94526

Hm 925-736-1343

Email: joanne16@sbcglobal.net

District Website Chairman:

Sylvia Golfes, PDG

109 Hopeco Rd. Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Hm 925-932-1294 Bus 925-681-0378

Fax 925-681-0384

Email: sylvia94523@comcast.net

AHEPA District Scholarship Foundation

Steve Miller, PDG, Chairman

430 E. Merle Ct., San Leandro, CA 94577

510 569-2876 Email: fogmog2@yahoo.com



ORDER OF AHEPA

Chapter Presidents and Secretaries 2011-2012

CHAPTER	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY
Golden Gate Pacific #150 First Wednesday Holy Trinity Church 999 Brotherhood Way San Francisco, CA 94132	Nick Johnson 1320 Poplar Ave Pacifica, CA 94044 415 264-4789 nick.johnson@cbnocal.com	Paul G. Eliopoulos 1091 Las Pavadas Ave. San Rafael, CA 94903 415 479-5868 paulleliopoulos@aol.com
Fresno #151 First Thursday St. George Church 2219 N. Orchard Ave. Fresno, CA 93703	George Gianopoulos 2727 W. Bluff Dr. #123 Fresno, CA 93711 559 432-4630 gsgrd@pacbell.net	Bill Booras 1125 S. Clovis Ave. #104 Fresno, CA 93727-5300 559 255-3367 vasiliosbooras@att.net
Sacramento #153 Third Wednesday Church of Annunciation 614 Alhambra Road Sacramento, CA 95864	Demos Papadopoulos 4115 Fassett Ct. Elk Grove, CA 95758 916 684-9761 demos@micalrealtor.com	Andreas Yerocostas 1554 Parkway Dr. Folsom, CA 95630 916-337-0898 andreasyerocostas@yahoo.com
Oakland #171 Second Tuesday Ascension Cathedral 4700 Lincoln Ave. Oakland, CA 94602	Harry Metaxas 900 Dowling Blvd. San Leandro, CA 94577 510 632-9112 hmetaxas@sbcglobal.net	Dennis Metaxas 5501 Taft Ave. Oakland, CA 94618 510 547-8253 d_metaxas@yahoo.com
Stockton #212 Second Tuesday St. Basil Church 920 March Lane Stockton, CA 95207	Peter T. Koulouris 3860 Windy Cove Circle Stockton, CA 95219 209 476-0997 pkoulouris@aol.com	Tom Chairchianis 507 Cabot Ave. Modesto, CA 95354 209 576-1665 tchairchianis@yahoo.com
Solano #217 Third Wednesday St. Nicholas Church 1224 Alabama Street Vallejo, CA 94590	Nicholas Halbrook 3140 Clydesdale Fairfield, CA 94533 707 399-7066 wileyudell@aol.com	Arnold Dorer 363 Valley Vista Vallejo, CA 94590 707 553-2095
Marysville #228 Second Thursday 929 11th Street Marysville, CA 95991	Stephen Payton 609 McDewitt Dr. Wheatland, CA 95692 530 633-0750 spay@att.net	Andrew Kantargis 724 Andrew Dr. Yuba City, CA 95991 530 671-6286 ajki@syix.com
Modesto #246 Third Tuesday Annunciation Church 313 Tokay Ave. Modesto, CA 95350	Jeff Brown 914 Mount Vernon Dr. Modesto, CA 95350 209 577-2821 jeffsparkles@aol.com	Fred Thompson 417 Heartland Pl Manteca, CA 95337 209 825-2227
Garden City #251 Second Tuesday St. Nicholas Church 1260 Davis Street San Jose, CA 95126	Michael Prokopakis 1008 Julie Ct. Santa Clara, CA 95051 408 241-1062 mande@rocketmail.com	Bill Christie 3327 Lake Albano Cir San Jose, CA 95135 408 531-9211 billchristie1@mac.com
Contra Costa #259 Second Wednesday Home Federal Bank Walnut Creek, CA	Petros Priftis 2125 Hamlin Dr. Antioch, CA 94509 925 757-2062 petros.priftis@safeway.com	George Tsapouklis 4400 Tryndall Ct. Concord, CA 94520 925 798-7653 tsapouklis@sbcglobal.net
Reno #281 Third Thursday St. Anthony Church 4795 Lakeside Drive Reno, NV 89502	John Lagios 2600 Combs Canyon Carson City, NV 89703 775 892-2421 doclagios@gmail.com	Peter Lemonides 9680 Antelope Creek Dr. Reno, NV 89506 775 677-1834 ikone56@gmail.com
San Mateo #392 Fourth Thursday 241 Park Ave. Burlingame, CA 94010	Alexander Mallas 3937 B Colegrove St. San Mateo, CA 94403 650 345-4742 almallas@yahoo.com	Chris Frangos P.O. Box 1232 Millbrae, CA 94030 650 868-2402 cfrangos@cbnoreal.com



DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

Chapter Presidents and Secretaries 2011-2012

CHAPTER	PRESIDENT	CORR: SECRETARY
Eos #1 San Francisco First Wednesday Holy Trinity	Marion Parashis 212 Edgewood Dr Pacifica, CA 94044 Cell: (650) 888-8035 parispoet3@comcast.net	Stella Kyriakis 215 Loyola Dr Milbrae, CA 94030 stellakyriakis@yahoo.com
Echo #4 Oakland Second Tuesday Ascension Cathedral	Nancy Acuros 3926 Whittle Ave. Oakland, CA 94502 510 350-3792 nkja@sbcglobal.net	Sophie Constantine 2876 Marineview Dr. San Leandro, CA 94577 510 614-5800
Artemis #5 Sacramento Third Tuesday Annunciation Church	Diane Petersen 9879 Edeva Way Elk Grove, CA 95624 Cell: 916 214-4644 ladypetersen@earthlink.net	Jan Spanos 3224 Del Paso Blvd Sacramento, CA 95815 916 925-9022 janspanos@aol.com
Sparta #18 Stockton Second Wed St. Basil Church	Debbie Marmas Buck 1003 Douglas Rd. Stockton, CA 95207 209 478-8903 dbgreek@aol.com	Georgia Adams georgiaadams@comcast.net
Daphne #29 San Jose Second Tuesday St. Nicholas Church	Laurie Sabines 2023 Wellington Dr Milpitas, CA 95035 408 574-9500 lsahines@comcast.net	Theodora Koumoutsakis 928 Clintonia Ave. San Jose, CA 95125 408 293-9640 dorak62@yahoo.com
Phaedra #64 Modesto Third Tuesday Annunciation Church	Mary Gavrillis 4029 Holly Field Ct Modesto, CA 95356 209 574-9500 mgcocoles@yahoo.com	Ella Velthoen 6513 American Ave Modesto, CA 95356 209 545-1410 velthoen@clearwire.net
Leto #71 Fresno First Thursday St. George Church	Madelyn Jones 358 E. Avante Fresno, CA 93720 559 434-6357 madelynmjones@yahoo.com	Evelyn Boosalis 156 W El Paso Ave Clovis, CA 93611 559 297-1762 tedboosalis@sbcglobal.net
Elis #89 Reno Third Sunday St. Anthony Church	Nikki Feister 1627 Mountain Ln. Reno, NV 89521 775 852-2640 nfeister@yahoo.com	Joan Lagios 2600 Combs Canyon Rd. Carson City, NV 89703 775 882-2421 jelagios@gmail.com
Maonia #273 Vallejo Third Wednesday Sts. Constantine & Helen Church	Mary Dorer 363 Valle Vista Vallejo, CA 94590 707 553-2095	Marianne Roney 687 Kearney St. Vallejo, CA 94510 707 747-0995 mariannroney@hotmail.com
Urania #290 San Mateo Third Thursday 241 Park Ave. Burlingame	Rosie Salis 2365 St. Ashley Pl Walnut Creek, CA 94598 925 954-7375 r_salis@hotmail.com	Kalliope Fousekis 1508 Sixth Ave. Belmont, CA 94002 650 591-5409 kalliopef@aol.com
Harmonia #367 Walnut Creek First Thursday TBA	Georgia Anagnostopoulos 3460 Flamingo Dr. Concord, CA 94520 925 827-9905 georgiaanagnostopoulos@hotmail	Elizabeth Wellington 37 Lost Valley Dr. Orinda, CA 94563 925 295-5904 lizw3@yahoo.com



Message from District Governor Robert Sexton

Brothers:

I am sure you have heard the story of the old Greek man who had been very ill for some time. After being bedridden for weeks, he begins to feel better and notices that there are the smells of baking coming from the kitchen. He decides to get out of bed and investigate. When he makes it to the kitchen, he sees racks of *παχιμαδια* cooling on the table. But as he reaches out to sample one, he hears his wife's voice saying, "Don't touch those. They're for the funeral!"

Well, keep that thought in mind, as the membership totals for last year are in and worth discussing. The good news is that membership totals are up! The bad news? There is no bad news. Membership totals are up! Our total membership has exceeded the previous year. AHEPA is still growing. As it now stands, the order has 16,113 members, including life members. This is a substantial improvement over the last three years, as the 2008 total was 15,373.

How did the district do? We were in the top tier, with only a few districts doing better than we did. I have been receiving weekly reports as the year end approached and we were consistently better than most.

This should be looked at several ways. First, under the direction of Brother Anthony Kouzounis, Supreme Vice-President, membership goals had been set and given out at the District Governors Conference in September. The weekly reports were primarily to show how the districts were doing compared to their respective goals. These membership goals were broken down to the chapter level.

But the apparent horse race that ensued and how it was reported was skewed by the fact that many chapters are late in turning in per capita and membership reports. Some, for unknown reasons, wait until almost the end of the year to turn in anything. Thus, the only true report is the last one, when the deadline has passed and all the chapters have reported. District 21, I am very pleased to say, was in on time and even early, and it is due to the diligence of your secretaries and treasurers. Take a collective bow brothers, it is a job well done!

Now for some details. District 21 officially has 560 members, including life members. This is up over the prior three years (the 2008 total was 518) and we have grown in each of the last three years. Our goal was 575, meaning that we fell short by 15, but six of our chapters met or exceeded their goals. We initiated 20 new members and reinstated 12. Our dues paying membership is 495.

I can take no credit for any of this. It is through your efforts, your drive, your enthusiasm that AHEPA District 21 continues to grow. We can make this another positive year for the district. Brother Anthony sent me a brief note that said we did "pretty good." Let's show Brother Anthony, and all of AHEPA that we can do much better than "pretty good" in 2012.

As I have been telling the chapters at visitations, one key to membership is participation. This should be a banner year for attendance at our conferences and conventions. I expect to see a record turnout for the Spring Conference, March 10, in Belmont. I hope to see maxed-out delegations at the District Convention, June 7-9, at Thunder Valley. And this year, we should have the biggest delegation in Las Vegas for the Supreme Convention July 22-27. The rates are great and the trip is short. How could you not attend?

Our membership is up. Our chapters are active. Brothers, have a *παχιμαδι*. There isn't going to be a funeral anytime soon!



Message from District Governor Helen Sexton

Dear Sisters,

As I write this message in the middle of February, it is hard to believe how fast time has gone by. We have completed the visitations to all chapters, Oakland being the last but certainly not the least. It was wonderful seeing and visiting with the sisters in all the chapters. On behalf of my lodge, I want to extend a big THANK YOU to all of them, as well as to our brother AHEPANs for their hospitality and warm welcome. Above all, Sisters, you have my gratitude and congratulations for all your dedication and the hard work you put into our organization.

During our chapter visitations, I was pleased to see how vibrant many of the chapters are. Their enthusiasm, camaraderie and ability to work together in cooperation and harmony were quite evident. I was also very pleased to see how many new members and reinstatements took place. I was privileged and honored to be asked to do some of these initiations. And speaking of new members, please remember our little contest of which we spoke to you during our visitation. That is, the chapter with the most new members and reinstatements from September 1, 2011 to May 1, 2012, will be recognized with a plaque at our District Convention in June, and the sister who brings in the most new members (first signature on the application) will receive a gift card, compliments of the lodge. So please, send a copy of the membership and reinstatement applications to District Secretary Kathy Leles as soon as possible. We are looking forward to hearing great news from all of you.

Coming up soon is our District Spring Conference, to be held on Saturday, March 10th at the Belmont Church, hosted by the San Mateo AHEPA family. We would like to see many of you there. Registration forms were sent to your chapter presidents and secretaries as well as to the PDGs.

Also, don't forget our Sisterhood Conference, which will be held in Torrance, CA, on April 21st, 2012, hosted by the sisters of District 20. Five districts will be participating this year. Again registration forms can be requested from your president or secretary.

Before we know it, it will be time for the District Convention, which will be held at the Thunder Valley Casino, June 7-9, hosted by the Sacramento AHEPA family. We are looking forward to hearing more detailed information from our Sacramento brothers and sisters at our Spring Conference.

And, of course, mark your calendars for our Supreme Convention. It will take place July 22-27, 2012 in Las Vegas at the Monte Carlo Hotel. It promises to be a great one.

Sisters, in all my visitations to your chapters, I stressed the importance of participation and involvement beyond your chapter's activities. It gives us better education and understanding of the scope of our organization. In doing so, we get the bigger picture, i.e., what the Daughters of Penelope is all about. I have listed several opportunities for such participation. Encourage each other to attend them. You'll go back to your chapters more enthusiastic and energized to continue our mission.

Two years ago, our membership in District 21 was 620. A year ago it was 559. As of December 31, 2011, it stood at 561. Several of our older members have passed on during those two past years. This means that, at least during the last year, we have started to reverse the downward trend. Let us all put our best foot forward, keep the focus, and show bigger and better results by December 31, 2012.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at our conferences and conventions,

Yours in Theta Pi,

Helen Sexton

Golden Gate District #21 Calendar

March 10 Saturday	Spring Conference	San Mateo	Holy Cross GO Church
April 20-22	Sisterhood Conference	Torrance, CA	TBA
June 7-10	District Convention	Sacramento	Thunder Valley Casino
July 22-27	Supreme Convention	Las Vegas	Monte Carlo Hotel

Attention All Chapters!

*Bring your chapter information up to date
on the district websites; www.ahepa21.org
and www.dopdist21.org*

*for AHEPA send information to :
Chris Frangos at: cfrangos@cbnorcal.com*

*for Daughters send information to:
Sylvia Golfes at: sylvia94523@comcast.net*



AHEPA Supports Military Family Reading Program Through The USO!

AHEPA National President Dr. John Grossomanides announced the organization's support of military families by selecting the United Through Reading? Military Program as a national service project, working in cooperation with the United Services Organization (USO). United Through Reading is a program that enables service members to video record themselves reading books to their children back home and provides a DVD of the recording and a copy of the book to the child.

Go to the following links to learn more and make a chapter or individual donation for as little as \$10

Join Team USO-AHEPA and Make a Donation

Read About the Last "I Love You" Feature in The Ahepan Magazine

Read the AHEPA News Release

ORDER OF AHEPA AND DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE GOLDEN GATE DISTRICT #21

SPRING CONFERENCE



Saturday, March 10, 2012
Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church
900 Alameda de Las Pulgas
Belmont, CA 94002-1604



Hosted by the San Mateo AHEPA Family

Welcome/Continental breakfast	9:30 AM
Combined AHEPA/Daughters Meeting	10:30 AM
Luncheon	12:00 PM
Individual AHEPA/Daughters Meeting	1:00 PM
Adjournment	4:00 PM

Registration Form: (Reservation deadline: March 1, 2012)

Name: _____ AHEPA Chapter # _____

Name: _____ DOP Chapter # _____

City-State-ZIP _____ Phone () _____

Number in party _____ \$35.00 each (by March 1, 2012) Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please enclose checks payable to **DOP#290** and
mail to:

Ahepa #392
P.O.Box 447
Millbrae, CA. 94030

for information: 650-868-2402
ChristoFrangos@Gmail.com

Golden Gate District 21

Daughters of Penelope Scholarship Program



Proudly Announce the 2012 Scholarship Awards

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Past President's of Echo #4 Oakland \$1500

District 21 Scholarship \$1,000

District 21 Scholarship \$1,000

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Angela Mouroufas Memorial Scholarship \$2000

Ekaterini Tsakopoulos Memorial Scholarship \$2000

Kalliopi Alexopoulos Memorial Scholarship (Medical Field Only) \$1000

Re-Entry/Continuing Education

District 21 Scholarship \$1,000



**April 1, 2012
Deadline**

Any Questions Contact:

Joanne Booras

DOP District Scholarship Chairman

PO Box 1556

Danville, CA 94526

Home: 925.736.1343

Email: joanne16@sbcglobal.net

**Scholarship Applications are available on the District website
www.dopdist21.org Link "What's New"**



ORDER OF AHEPA
SUPREME LODGE HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION

MEMO

To: AHEPA Chapters President and Secretaries
AHEPA Supreme Lodge, Board and District Governors

Fr: Basil N. Mossaidis
Executive Director
AHEPA Headquarters

Brothers:

At the direction of the Supreme President Dr. John Grossomanides, I would like to recap the developments with the issues concerning the situation in Greece and the current economic conditions.

In October headquarters discussed with our chapters in Greece how we could assist the people in need. Discussion with District 25 (Greece) revealed that sending much needed food and clothing presented shipping concerns and transportation became an insurmountable problem. The Order of AHEPA has been coordinating with the Ministry of Education in Greece and in close cooperation with the Embassy of Greece in Washington, DC to finalize a plan of action.

1. The Ministry of Education voucher program will assist to feed needy children in Greek public schools. Through our AHEPA Chapters worldwide, we will raise funds to offer children a hot meal in their communities. We will send our funds to our 14 AHEPA chapters in Greece to assure proper delivery of food items, these members in Greece are our "boots on the ground".
2. AHEPA has partnered with the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC). AHEPA is supporting IOCC's humanitarian efforts to distribute much needed food and medical supplies to those who have been affected. **Funds will go directly to pay for the shipment of medical supplies and food.**

For over 90 years the AHEPA has been at the forefront on sending assistance to our friends and families in Greece. Our record speaks for itself. Supreme President Grossomanides asks that every chapter, district and member please support our initiative. Please make donation payable to:

AHEPA Foundation, Inc
Att: Greece Aid
1909 Q Street NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20009

Or to make a donation via our web site visit www.ahepa.org and click **contribute** AHEPA Foundation Inc. a 501 (c) 3 entity. All donations are 100% tax deductible.

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On The Go With Artemis #5

By Diane Petersen PGG, President Artemis #5

The officers and members of Artemis #5 in Sacramento send best wishes to our AHEPA families throughout the domain. Artemis #5 covers a wide area in the Sacramento Valley. We have members from three different churches Elk Grove, Roseville, and Sacramento. When the Marysville chapter closed, members from Zephyrus transferred to Artemis. We have a very diverse age group of daughters from 29 years to 96 years old.

On the go so far...

- August—Board meeting at a restaurant overlooking the runway at Executive Airport in Sacramento.

- September—helped at two food festivals—Sacramento and Elk Grove.

- October—Daughters attended the Fall Conference in Stockton, marched at the Women's Suffrage Movement at the Capitol, and saw Dracula performed by the Sacramento Ballet.

- November—attended Founders Day in San Francisco and initiated one new member. Also one of our sisters Jan Spanos PGG (National Legislation Chairman) was injured in an automobile accident and is still working hard on her recovery. We send her lots of e-mail and best wishes toward a speedy recovery. (Several of us saw her at the hospital and rehab, but now that she is at home—no visitors, just family members taking her out to doctor's appointments).

- December—AHEPAN Family Christmas Luncheon and service awards given out to our members. We also attended the Metropolitan Luncheon in Oakland.

- January—hosted the District #21 Lodge visitation and initiated two new members. Helped at the Crab Feed in Elk Grove.

- February—Reinstatement of daughter from the Vallejo chapter. On a Saturday outing the daughters saw the movie The Artist, then had lunch after the movie (beautiful sunny day in Sacramento). Daughters attended the opera Rigoletto.

Crab feed in Sacramento. Our oldest member Mary Cazanis celebrated her 96th birthday on the 20th.

Next on the Agenda...

- March—attend the Spring Conference, flag raising at the Capitol (March 25th), helping at the luncheon on March 25th at the Annunciation Church in Sacramento.

- April—Daughters will help during Holy Week at all three churches and those who are Sunday School teachers will help at the Good Friday services. Attend the Sisterhood Conference in District #20.

- May—Saturday/Luncheon/Meeting at a restaurant by the Sacramento River. Mother's Day Luncheon in Elk Grove. Food Festival in Roseville.

- May/June—seeing the play Wicked in Sacramento. Honoring high school and college graduates at all three churches.

- June—Hosting the District #21 Convention.

- July—National Convention in Las Vegas.

We will be also initiating and transferring more members into Artemis in the coming months. The Daughters are planning more movie/lunches on Saturdays. So the list of outings will go on and on....



ONLY 100 RUNNER TEAM SLOTS

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from the 12,000 hard limit entries placed by the event organizers

How would you like to get a free trip to Greece to run or walk the Classic Athens Marathon?

The course starts from the exact Battlefield in Marathon Greece and follows through to the historic 1896 Olympic Stadium.

REGISTER NOW!

SPONSOR A RUNNER!

Event Date: November 11, 2012

The AHEPA will pay for successful fundraisers and your tour package for a six day/five night trip to Athens.

See ahepa.org/marathon for all the details



**Attention Greek-American High School Juniors:
Don't Miss Your Chance to Be a Part of
the AHEPACademy Class of 2012**

Session Dates: June 24, 2012 – June 30, 2012

EARLY ACTION APPLICATION

DEADLINE: MARCH 4, 2012

EXTENDED APPLICATION

DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2012

Apply for the opportunity to be one of a small, select group of Greek-American high school students selected from all over the country to participate in AHEPACademy, an interactive leadership and professional development program to be held at George Mason University outside Washington, DC from June 24 – June 30, 2012.

AHEPACademy is a leadership and professional development program that identifies, educates, inspires, mentors, advances, and networks exceptional Greek-American high school students as they progress through their high school, college, graduate and professional careers.

Graduates of AHEPACademy are eligible for further mentoring, access to a nationwide network of internships, and participation in continuing internet-based networking and learning opportunities throughout their academic careers and beyond. AHEPACademy provides instruction and inspiration by prominent Greek-American and Philhellene instructors from the academic, professional, and public service fields across the United States.

AHEPACademy is looking for exceptional Greek-American high school juniors during the 2011-2012 school year with top grades (minimum 3.5/4.0 GPA or equivalent or Top 10% of Class), who exemplify scholarship, leadership, character, participation in extracurricular activities, community service, and involvement in the Greek-American community to apply for selection to this summer's AHEPACademy on Campus program.

Applications for AHEPACademy are now available at www.AHEPACademy.com. The early action deadline for submission of completed applications to AHEPACademy is March 4, 2012. Please contact AHEPACademy

and your local AHEPA Chapter as soon as possible to indicate your interest in applying for the program and regarding your eligibility to receive a scholarship from your local AHEPA Chapter for your participation in the AHEPACademy on Campus program.

*For more information, please email
AHEPACademy at info@AHEPACademy.com.*

Leto Chapter #71 Fresno

by Elenni Rotous Rockas

As 2011 closes and the NEW YEAR unfolds, we are excited about our chapter activities under the amazing leadership of PRESIDENT MADELYN JONES!!

In November we welcomed our District Officers headed by our own HELEN SEXTON as DISTRICT GOVERNOR. The other officers attending were: KATHY LELES – Secretary, CHRYSANTHY PANAGOPOULOS – Lt. Governor and BRENDA JOHNSON – Marshal.

Sister MAVRA PATROPOULOS, who is a member of the Association of Interior Designers and also a Green Designer, gave us an exciting power point presentation on "Current Trends in Interior Design." We all rushed home to redecorate our homes with our new ideas!!

Our community annual Christmas Luncheon was shared with the Philoptochos and Santa Claus. FATHER JIM PAPPAS, our parish priest, was general chairman, and we enjoyed a great turnout! Because of many donations we held a raffle and a live auction of wreaths & other Christmas decorations, led by our great auctioneer KOPI SOTIROPOULOS. (Kopi is the weatherman on our local TV Channel as well as the morning show news anchor – everyone in Fresno knows "KOPI"!)

We welcomed the New Year with the initiation of SIX NEW MEMBERS!!!

Our Brother Ahepans and our families joined us as 55 of us attended a presentation at the DOWNING PLANETARIUM at the University of California at Fresno. We were able to view planets, nebulae and other celestial objects.

MASQUERADE will be our next event on Friday, February 24th!! We are joining the CALIFORNIA OPERA ASSOCIATION and St. George Parish for dinner, music, operatic singing and entertainment with a French theme. Welcome! Soyez le bienvenu!

You Can Make A Difference

Submitted by Jan Spanos, 2012 National Legislation Chairman

Sisters, we are 2 years into the 2nd decade of the 21st century; but as an organization are we keeping up to the needs of women in this era? Are we forward thinking enough to increase and maintain new members?

It is our responsibility, each one of us, as members of the Daughters of Penelope to stay current with the laws that govern our organization and to effect change when those laws are no longer applicable to the needs of our members and communities and in some cases detrimental to our growth and civic responsibilities.

Each of us should have and use the most current Constitution, By-Laws and Ritual along with a copy of Roberts Rules of Order Revised Edition. The most current publications of our Constitution and Ritual which reflect the changes passed at the 2011 Convention are available through our National Headquarters. ALL other copies are considered obsolete and should NOT be in use.

It is through well researched and thought out processes that effective and forward moving LEGISLATION is realized. We, each of us, have the power to bring a new awareness of what our organization is, what we stand for and why.

It is through each of us, that purposed changes are introduced, debated upon, amended and eventually voted on by Supreme Convention delegates to become immediately part of working Constitution and Ritual.

So Sisters, I implore you to stand up at your Chapter meeting discuss changes that you perceive as being most beneficial; when passed in your Chapter, take your change to your District Convention; when passed there, submit your proposed change using the writable form on our National website electronically and through the US Postal Service or UPS or FedEx to me before the deadline of June 15.

My good wishes to you and yours for a prayerful Lenten Season and Joyous Easter.



AHEPA Family Supreme Convention
The Monte Carlo Casino Hotel and Resort
in Las Vegas, Nevada

July 22-27, 2012

Book your reservation early and quickly for this wonderful destination. The Supreme Lodge and Board are excited to announce that the dates of this convention were changed in an effort to accommodate our brothers and sisters who wanted the convention in July.

Make your reservations today by calling the Monte Carlo at the number listed below or by clicking on the web site provided below.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

The Hotel Reservation Department's toll-free number is 800-311-8999. In order to receive the group rate, callers must identify their affiliation with Annual Supreme Convention 2012, and a group code XASC12 and confirm their reservations with a deposit prior to the cut off date.

Direct Online Booking Link:

<https://reservations.mgmmirage.com/bookingengine.aspx?pid=MCH&host=group&code=XASC12>



Sweetheart Night San Francisco

Brother Ahepans treated
Eos #1 Sisters to a Valentine's
Cake and coffee.

Chapter Presidents

Nick Johnson and Marion Parashis

Sweethearts

Vivian Leos, Marion Parashis,
and Ackie Argyres



Nick and Marion are about
to share the cake.



DISTRICT LODGE VISITATION WALNUT CREEK JANUARY 14, 2012

DISTRICT LODGE VISITATION SACRAMENTO JANUARY 21, 2012





DOP DISTRICT LODGE AND ECHO CHAPTER OAKLAND FEBRUARY 11, 2012

AHEPA DISTRICT LODGE AND SACRAMENTO CHAPTER JANUARY 21, 2011





DISTRICT LODGE VISITATION RENO NOVEMBER 5, 2011

DISTRICT LODGE VISITATION VALLEJO FEBRUARY 4, 2012





District Governor Helen Sexton with Fresno Leto Chapter members at the St. George Masquerade Party

Modesto Ahepa Family Crabfest



Modesto DOP Chapter President Mary Gavrilis, DG Helen Sexton & Treasurer Bev Kennedy

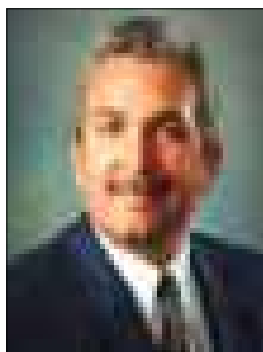


Attendees & District Lt. Governor Tom & Mrs. Chiarchianis far right.



District Treasurer Alex & Mrs. Bazos and District Governor Bob Sexton.

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Robert Sexton, Governor Tom Chiarchianis, Lt. Governor

GOLDEN GATE DISTRICT No. 21

DISTRICT LODGE

Alex Bazos, Treasurer Bill Booras, Secretary
Nick Pries, Advisor

Petros Priftis, President Argiris Giannikos, Vice President

Compliments of

CONTRA COSTA CHAPTER No. 259

Meets 1st Thursday each month

St. Demetrios Church • 1056 Kirker Pass Road, Concord

Steve Filios, Treasurer George Tsapouklis, Secretary

John Lagios, President John Copoulos, Vice Pres.

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St. Anthony Church • 4795 Lakeside Dr., Reno, NV

Jim Nicholson, Treasurer Peter Lemonides, Secretary

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4700 Lincoln Ave., Oakland

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GOLDEN GATE PACIFIC CHAPTER No. 150

Meets 1st. Wednesday

Holy Trinity Church • 999 Brotherhood Way
San Francisco 94132

Paul G. Eliopoulos, Secretary/Treasurer

DAUGHTERS of PENELOPE
2011-2012 DISTRICT LODGE

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Chrisanthy Panagopoulos, Lt. Governor Kathy Leles, Secretary

Kathy La Giusa, Treasurer Brenda Johnson, Marshal

Margo Drosos, Lodge Advisor/MOA Advisor

Michael Prokopakis, President Alex Giakoumis, Vice President

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GARDEN CITY CHAPTER No. 251

Meets 2nd Tuesday each month

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Bill Christie, Secretary

Marion Parashis, Pres.

Elaine Makras, Vice Pres.

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Holy Trinity Church • 999 Brotherhood Way

San Francisco 94132

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Brenda Johnson, Rec. Sec.

Stella Kyriakis, Coores. Sec.

Jeff Brown, President

Dr. Paul Forakis, Vice President

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MODESTO CHAPTER No. 246

Meets 3rd Tuesday every month

313 Tokay Ave., Modesto, CA

Stamus Cocolos, Treasurer

Fred Thompson, Secretary



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SEND ADS TO:

Bill Booras

1125 S. Clovis Ave., #104, Fresno, CA 93727

Tel/Fax: 559 255-3367 Email: vasiliosbooras@att.net

for more information

Call 559 255-3367 or 408 292-9881