

GOLDEN GATE DISTRICT NO. 21

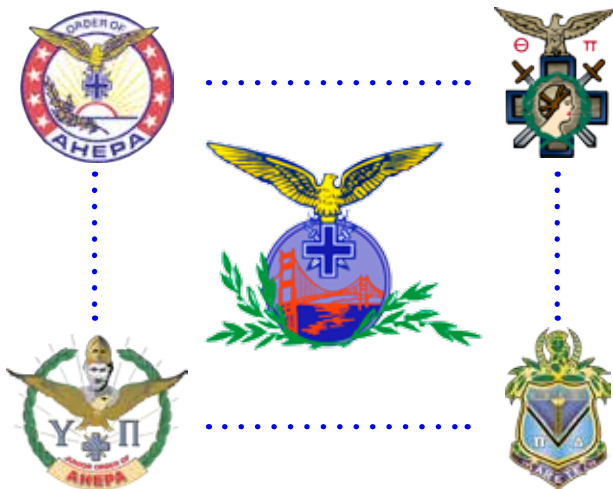
Ahepa Traveler

CHAPTERS THROUGHOUT NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN NEVADA

Volume 64, No. 1

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF DISTRICT No. 21

March/Spring 2015



GOLDEN GATE DISTRICT 21
AHEPA
FAMILY DISTRICT
CONVENTION
JUNE 5-7 2015
STOCKTON HILTON

SEE PAGES 6 & 7 FOR REGISTRATION AND ALBUM AD FORMS


AHEPA
FAMILY SUPREME
CONVENTION
JULY 1-5 2015 HYATT EMBARCADERO
SAN FRANCISCO



REGISTER ONLINE AT AHEPA.ORG/CONVENTION See pages 9-11 for ad form, etc.

"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.

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**PUBLISHING SCHEDULED
JUNE 1, 2015**

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Will Travel**



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Charity Raffles
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A Message from your District Governor

Greetings my fellow travelers and Happy New Year! Here we are, halfway through the second month of 2015, and all is quiet on the Western Front.

The Lodge has completed its grand tour of District 21 this past January. On behalf of the District Lodge, I would like to thank all of the chapter(s) who hosted our visitations and to commend all of you for a job well done. I would also like to thank my group of road warriors from the Ahepa and Daughters of Penelope District Lodge(s) who traveled from near and far to visit all of our chapters.

So, you may ask, what is next? Well, I am glad you asked. If it is February, we are now entering the Ahepa District 21 scholarship season. By now, all of the chapters should have received the 2015 Ahepa District 21 Scholarship application package. New for 2015, the Ahepa scholarship will now accept children (applicants) of Daughters of Penelope members in good standing. Please check out the requirements to see if your child will qualify. The scholarship program, will now include accredited trade/technical schools that offer career-focused bachelor degree programs. For the first time, the Ahepa District 21 Scholarship is now available on-line in PDF format at ahepa21.org. You can also check with your chapter President or Secretary for the application package.

The countdown to the Ahepa Family Golden Gate District 21 Convention and the Ahepa Family Supreme Convention has begun. Our District Convention will be held in Stockton at the Hilton Hotel, Stockton from June 5-7. All of the chapters have received the convention delegate packages, plus the delegate forms are available at the Ahepa D21 website. At the website you will also

find the District Convention Album Contract. Please try to help out your district by selling and purchasing ads for the album.

The Supreme Convention will be held in San Francisco at the Hyatt Regency Embarcadero. The convention is set for June 29-July 5. District 21 will be hosting an event on Thursday July 2. Details are just about completed and will be sent out to the chapters as well as posted on the website. So stay tuned for more information. For this year's Supreme Convention, the District will be putting together the convention album. As stated during our visitations, we would like all of the chapters to be involved in helping your district produce a world class album. Visit our district website for more details about the D21 hosted event as well as the convention album.

Finally, I must let you know the status of two projects that District 21 is currently working on. First, our renovation project for the boy's dormitory at St. Nicholas Ranch is starting to pick up the pace. By the time that The Traveler goes to press, we should have a contractor secured as well as decided on the first phase of the project. I would like to express my profound appreciation to those individuals and chapters who have already donated to this important project. To date we have collected \$37,000+ in donations! Please try to get your chapter involved in a fundraising program for the Ranch project.

The second project being undertaken by the district is also one of great importance: The rebuilding of the St. Nicholas National Shrine at Ground Zero in New York City. This is a national Ahepa project and will span two years of fundraising efforts. With Lent and Pascha almost upon us, now would be a good time for a chapter to host a coffee hour at your local church to help raise funds. I would like to thank those chapters and individual members who have donated to this project so far.

Well, I have said enough for now. I would like to take this time to wish you and your families a Kalo Pascha!

Fraternally;

Tom Chiarchianis

District 21 Governor



Greetings from your District Governor -

As the Lenten Season begins, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank every chapter for their wonderful hospitality and graciousness you have shown not only to me but to the District Lodge. Each visit or "meet and greet" planned this year was truly insightful and I am so very thankful to all the sisters in District 21 for allowing us to come together to collaborate with one another and include others from neighboring chapters to events. What true Sisterhood!

Coming up soon is our Sisterhood Conference which will be held in San Diego on April 25, 2015. The conference, hosted by District 20 and the sisters in San Diego, will take place at the Hilton Mission Valley. Hotel cost is \$149.00 a night and registration for the conference is \$60.00. The registration form is included in this edition of the AHEPA Traveler, so please make every effort to complete yours and send it in as soon as possible.

As you all are aware, the District Convention will take place from June 5-7th in Stockton, California. The convention will begin on Friday as usual with our combined delegate meeting with the AHEPANS and then breakaway for our own in the afternoon. That evening, the Stockton AHEPA Family will be hosting the Welcome Night out in the patio area with DJ Chris Perris and the Sons and Maids will also be joining us as they will be sponsoring a raffle to raise funds for their treasury and projects. Meetings will begin promptly Saturday morning with a delegate lunch served at noon. Meetings will resume in the afternoon and our Banquet will highlight the district's scholarship recipients, drawing the winning tickets for the Daughters of Penelope District Raffle and dancing once again to DJ Chris. If you would like to help in any capacity, just contact me or AHEPA District Governor Tom Chiarchianis. Complete your registration form, as well as the ad form for the convention album. Now is the time to elect delegates, get your ads submitted

for the convention album and make your reservations at the Stockton Hilton!

Chapter presidents, you should have already received a packet from National Headquarters with various forms and applications as well as District forms from me. Look through the forms and adhere to their deadlines. In addition, all district forms need to be completed and returned by May 1, 2015 as information from each chapter is necessary for the convention agenda. The forms emailed recently include the revised Chapter Assessment Form, the End of the Year Governors form, the District Convention Chapter Agenda Report and the District Convention Delegate/Alternate form. For your assistance, a 2014-2015 Forms Distribution Guide, which lists all the National and District forms that all chapters have to complete by the listed deadline, has been emailed out as well.

DISTRICT REMINDERS:

- Distribute all raffle tickets and keep selling – let's see which chapter sells their allotment! Will it be yours? Profit from this fundraiser is spearheaded for the renovation of the AHEPA Family Dorm at St. Nicholas Ranch & Retreat Center in Dunlap, California.
- Scholarship applications should have already been distributed to qualified students. Contact District Scholarship Chairman Mary Gavrilis with any questions you may have. Deadline is April 1, 2015.
- Don't forget that our membership contest is still going on. Send a copy of the application of your new initiates and reinstatements to our District Secretary, Foula Vasilogiorgis. Deadline is May 1st.
- Create committees to choose your chapter's Penelope of the Year and Daughter of the Year.

On behalf of the District Lodge – Beverly Kennedy, Mary Gavrilis, Foula Vasilogiorgis, Vaso Moulas and Helen Sexton – I wish the AHEPA Family a blessed Easter season and look forward to seeing you at the Sisterhood Conference and District Convention!

In Theta Pi,

Kathy Leles

District 21 Governor





Daughters of Penelope
El Camino Real District 20 - Philia Chapter 380
SISTERHOOD CONFERENCE

Hilton San Diego Mission Valley
 San Diego, California
April 24-25, 2015

Agenda

| | | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Friday | April 24, 2015 | 3:00pm -6:00pm | Registration | Foyer |
| | | 5:30pm -7:30pm | Welcome Reception | North Park Room |
| Saturday | April 25, 2015 | 8:00am -9:00am | Registration | Foyer |
| | | 9:00am -4:00pm | Conference | Hillcrest Ballroom |
| | | 12:00pm-1:00pm | Lunch | North Park Room |
| | | 4:00pm | Conference Adjourns | |
| | | 5:00pm | Bus to Viejas Casino & Outlet Stores | |
| <i>Detailed Agenda and more information to follow on www.dopdistrict20.org</i> | | | | |

Hotel

Hotel room reservations must be made by March 15, 2015 to receive DOP \$149 rate.

Call 1-800-682-6099 and reference DOP Sisterhood Conference when making reservation.

Hilton San Diego Mission Valley

Address: 901 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego, CA 92108, Tel: 619-543-9000, Website: www.hiltonmv.com

Room Rate: \$149 per night single/double occupancy plus taxes, includes two complimentary hot breakfasts per room per day, free WiFi

Parking

Overnight guests \$10 day. Day guest attendees \$5 day.

Saturday Night– Viejas Casino and Outlet Stores

Enjoy an evening with your Sisters at the Viejas Casino, shopping at the Outlet Stores, and no host dining.

Bus travel to and from the Casino departs the hotel on Saturday evening at 5:00pm. Please indicate on your registration form if you will be joining us for this evening excursion. www.viejas.com

DOP Philia #380 San Diego contacts: Tasia Manassakis, Tel: 760-715-8217 and Linda Kounelis, Tel: 858-218-5933

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE SISTERHOOD CONFERENCE 2015 REGISTRATION FORM

Send Completed Registration Form and Registration Fee made payable to Daughters of Penelope to:

Daughters of Penelope, Vasil Karounos, 8583 Hydra Lane, San Diego, California 92126

Tel: 858-693-1728, 858-382-7398, vasilkarounos40@gmail.com

Name _____
 Address _____
 Email _____ Telephone _____
 District Number _____ Chapter Name & Number _____
 Office Held _____

Registration Fee \$60 (includes Lunch Buffet) _____ Fee enclosed

Viejas Casino & Outlet Shopping Bus Travel: (Please check one)

_____ Yes, please include me in the excursion

_____ No, do not include me in the excursion



AHEPA Family Golden Gate District 21
83rd Annual District Convention
June 05 - 06, 2015
Hilton Hotel, Stockton, CA



EVENT REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Deadline: Friday, May 15, 2015

NAME CHAPTER #

AFFILIATION AHEPA DELEGATE _____ DOP DELEGATE _____ AHEPA ALTERNATE _____ DOP ALTERNATE _____

SOP MEMBER _____ MOA MEMBER _____ NON-MEMBER GUEST _____

ADDRESS WORK PHONE

CITY-ST-ZIP HOME PHONE

E-MAIL CELL PHONE

AHEPA & DAUGHTERS DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES MUST PAY FOR THE COMPLETE PACKAGE

| Convention Registration Packages & Tickets | Cost per Person | Number | Total Cost |
|---|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| AHEPA/DAUGHTERS Delegates & Alternates Registration Package Includes Friday evening Welcome Night, Saturday Lunch, Evening Governors' Reception and Scholarship Awards Dinner Dance Scholarship Dinner Meal Choice Ribeye Steak _____ Salmon _____ Vegetarian _____ | \$160 \$180 (After May 15) | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| GUEST Package Includes Friday evening Welcome Night, Saturday Lunch, Evening Governors' Reception and Scholarship Awards Dinner Dance Scholarship Dinner Meal Choice Ribeye Steak _____ Salmon _____ Vegetarian _____ | \$130 \$150 (After May 15) | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| SONS OF PERICLES & MAIDS OF ATHENA Package Includes Friday evening Welcome Night, Saturday Evening Governors' Reception and Scholarship Awards Dinner Dance Scholarship Dinner Meal Choice Ribeye Steak _____ Salmon _____ Vegetarian _____ | \$ 90 \$110 (After May 15) | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

| Individual Event Purchase | Cost per Person | Number | Total Cost |
|---|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Welcome Night – FRI - JUN 05 @ 6:00 PM | \$ 40 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Lunch – SAT - JUN 06 @ 12:00 NOON | \$ 45 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Scholarship Awards Dinner Dance – SAT - JUN 06 No Host Cocktails 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM Dinner 7:00 PM Scholarship Dinner Meal Choice Ribeye Steak _____ Salmon _____ Vegetarian _____ | \$ 80 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

TOTAL REGISTRATION AND/OR INDIVIDUAL EVENT PAYMENT ENCLOSED

Please include payment for registration, guests, SOP, MOA and/or individual events payable to AHEPA DISTRICT 21
Mail registration form and payment to – AHEPA D21, 3321 McHenry Avenue Suite A, Modesto, CA 95350

Convention registration also available on the District 21 website: <http://www.ahepa21.org/>

NOTE: Make Hotel Reservations Directly with Hilton Hotel, 2323 Grand Canal Blvd, Stockton, CA 95207
Phone (800) 445-8667 or (209) 957-9090 Website <http://hiltonstockton.com/>
\$99 + Tax Ask for AFD2 Rate Code or Use Personalized Group Web Page Below

http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SCKSTHF-AFD21-20150604/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Hotel Registration Deadline: Day, MAY 08, 2015



AHEPA Family Golden Gate District 21



2015 Commemorative Album Ad Contract

The undersigned hereby agrees to pay the sum of \$ _____ for a _____ page advertisement in the AHEPA FAMILY 2015 DISTRICT 21 CONVENTION ALBUM, subject to the terms of this contract.

Advertiser _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Advertiser Signature _____ Date _____

AD SIZE CHOICES

| | | |
|--------------|--------|---|
| Full Page * | \$ 175 | * Full page (only) ads placed in both the District 21 and the AHEPA Supreme albums qualify for 20% discount. Complete separate ad contract form for the Supreme album (form available from Supreme headquarters). Must submit payment and contracts for both ads with this District album contract. |
| Half Page | \$ 100 | |
| Quarter Page | \$ 75 | |

PREMIUM PAGES ALSO AVAILABLE

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Front Cover Page | \$ 750 |
| Back Cover Page | \$ 500 |
| Inside Front Cover Page | \$ 400 |
| Inside Back Cover Page | \$ 400 |
| Centerfold Pages | \$ 1,000 |

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO
AHEPA DISTRICT 21

**MAIL CONTRACT, PAYMENT AND
COPY OF AD TO**

Beverly Kennedy
1628 Snyder Avenue, Modesto, CA 95356

AD & PAYMENT DEADLINE-MAY 1

Submit ad electronically to ahepad21album@gmail.com
or type message below and mail with payment.

SUBMIT AD COPY ELECTRONICALLY TO ahepad21album@gmail.com

SUBMIT ANY HARD COPY ADS BY MAIL TO Beverly Kennedy, 1628 Snyder Avenue, Modesto, CA 95356

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

Bev Kennedy 209-815-6052 Email ahepad21album@gmail.com or bevkv@olives.com

Copy and Contract Regulations:

- All copy and advertisements are subject to approval of the Convention Committee. Committee approval shall not relieve advertiser of its obligation to defend and indemnify as provided below.
- E-Mailed photos in PDF, TIF or JPG format are preferred. Otherwise, photos must be glossy finished. (Resolution 300 DPI Minimum)
- All payments and materials must be received by the deadline of May 1, 2015 for guaranteed placement in album.
- The advertiser agrees to protect, defend and indemnify AHEPA District 21, its individual members and the publisher against any claim based on libelous statements, unauthorized use of photographs or other material, or any other matter based on or used within the advertiser's ad.
- Requests for photographs to be returned must be in writing. Please provide a self-addressed stamped envelope.



AHEPA VETERANS REGISTRATION

AHEPA Medal for Military Service is awarded to all veterans in Honor of their service to the United States.

“The Mission of the Order of AHEPA Veterans Committee is to archive and recognize all veterans of the Order and Hellenic community through sound communication and publication. Furthermore, to conduct fund raising and philanthropic outreach through a cohesive, limited, yet well defined activity that reflects well on the Order of AHEPA and brings credit to the organization at large.”

The AHEPA Medal for Military Service, approved by the 106th Congress, was presented to all AHEPA veterans present at the 34th Biennial Congressional Banquet, March 29, 2000. The Supreme Lodge then encouraged its districts and chapters to present this medal to its deserving veterans unable to attend this banquet. It is this committee’s intent to register AHEPA Veterans and have the AHEPA Medal presented at appropriate events at the District and Chapter levels. Funds collected through this effort cover medal production and other administrative costs to include shipping. Remaining proceeds will be donated to the Wounded Warrior Program annually.

Eligibility requirement for AHEPA Medal for Military Service includes Honorable Service and Discharge. Service includes Active Duty, National Guard, or Reserve status of the United States Armed Forces. REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.AHEPA.ORG. File a copy with your chapter Secretary after registration is complete. Medals are normally shipped in the fall and in time for Veteran’s Day celebrations in November.



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*



93rd AHEPA Family Supreme Convention July 1 - 5th
 San Francisco, California
 ADVERTISEMENT ORDER FORM

Support the 2015 AHEPA Supreme Convention by placing an advertisement in the 93rd Anniversary Commemorative Album

This year, all ads are full page and will cost \$150

ALL ADS WILL NEED TO BE SUBMITTED BY EMAIL TO AHEPASUPREMEALBUM@GMAIL.COM

ADS SUBMITTED IN OTHER FORMS ADD A \$35 ADMIN FEE AND SEND US \$185 TOTAL

METHOD OF PAYMENT

_____ Check

Payable to: AHEPA Supreme Convention _____ Credit Card

CONTACT INFORMATION, PLEASE FILL OUT IN FULL

Chapter _____ District _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Credit Card _____ Expiration Date _____

CVV _____ Billing Zip Code _____ Signature _____

Payment & Ad Deadline: Ads must be received NO LATER THAN May 25, 2015!!!

Mail Form & Check to:
 Email:

Beverly Kennedy, 1628 Snyder Avenue, Modesto, CA 95356.
 AHEPASupremeAlbum@gmail.com



ORDER OF AHEPA
SUPREME LODGE HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION

January, 2015

Brothers:

The Supreme President of the Order of AHEPA Phillip T. Frangos and the Chairman of our Board of Trustees, Nicholas A. Karacostas, PSP have asked us to write you a letter today in support of The Order of AHEPA's 93rd Annual Supreme Convention. We would like to invite you to become a sponsor of our event, or assist us in securing sponsorship for our events. Our convention will be held at the Hyatt Embarcadero Hotel in San Francisco July 1-July 5, 2015 and it promises to be a fantastic convention.

We are encouraging you to reach out to your friends and business community to share in our sponsorship opportunities. Your assistance and sponsorship would go a long way in defraying the cost associated with hosting such an event. The Order of AHEPA will naturally indicate your sponsorship on our evening's program and supply you with a compensation package according to your level of commitment.

We are asking all of our chapters to assist in making this year's convention the best yet. We value your assistance and appreciate your consideration. Your support of our convention will go a long way in assisting in promoting the close relationship the AHEPA shares with our community. The Order of AHEPA touches the entire Greek American community and sponsors will have access to thousands of people in an effort to show their support and promote their products.

Please consider joining us on July 1-July 5, 2015 at the Embarcadero Hyatt in San Francisco! Reservations can be made at www.ahepa.org/convention. Lastly, we have enclosed sponsorship forms and journal ad forms for your use. Please return the forms at your earliest convenience.

In closing if you require additional assistance; please feel free to call upon us at any time. For Basil, my office number is (202) 232-6300 ext. 102. Thanking you in advance for your support, we remain,

Sincerely,

Basil N. Mossaidis
Executive Director

Editors note: The forms referenced above can be found on the AHEPA website. www.ahepa.org/convention.

Tim Joannides

Tim Joannides, Convention Committee
Supreme Governor



Chapter Level Partnership Opportunity

Ahepa's primary business, cultural, and social event of the year, the 93rd Annual Supreme Convention promises to be an exciting, can't-miss event! The dates of the conclave are July 1 – 5th. It will be the first time the AHEPA Family visits the city of San Francisco, California since 2009.

The annual convention attracts an average audience of 1500 attendees from across the globe. AHEPA, the largest and oldest association of Americans of Greek heritage, is proud to offer an exclusive partnership opportunity to leading businesses and organizations like yours for this special occasion.

Becoming a partner of the AHEPA Supreme Convention will give your organization or company the opportunity to be recognized and gain exposure to those in attendance.

SIGN UP TODAY!

Name _____

Company Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E – mail _____

☐ I prefer to remain anonymous ☐ I'd like to join AHEPA

Chapter Level Partnership Package

- Full page ad space in the 2015 Commemorative Convention Album
- A listing in the Grand Banquet Dinner Program
- Partnership mention at the Opening Ceremony

INVESTMENT: \$1,000

The mission of AHEPA is to promote the ancient Greek ideals of Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence through community service and volunteerism.

Contact AHEPA at: 202-232-6300 | 202-232-2140 (F) | www.ahepa.org | ahepa@ahepa.org



BEACH BLANKET BABYLON

678 Beach Blanket Babylon Boulevard
(Green Street)
San Francisco CA 94133

Thursday July 2nd, 2015 @ 8pm**

"A 'must-see' experience
for San Franciscans and
visitors alike."

GRUIN NEWSON
MAYOR OF SAN FRANCISCO

Persons under 21 not admitted to evening performances. All sections are General Admission (first come/first seated)

\$48

*Enjoy your evening at the 2015 convention at the
longest running musical revue in theatre history!*

Special rate and seating for AHEPA if prepaid through
Bill Anton: 925.858.5441 barsinc@att.net

Payable to: AHEPA District 21
629 Saint George Road Danville, Ca 94526

****PAYMENT MUST BE MADE BY APRIL 30TH TO GUARANTEE SEATING**
(always a sold-out show)



AHEPA Campaign to Build Saint Nicholas National Shrine at World Trade Center

September 11 was a national tragedy that forever changed America. Nearly 3,000 lives were lost; 39 of who were Greek Americans. Also lost that fateful day was the only House of Worship destroyed by the 9/11 attacks Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church.

The effort to rebuild Saint Nicholas was mired in bureaucracy. AHEPA's "Cut the Red Tape!" campaign proved effective in helping to budge the bureaucracy of the New York/New Jersey Port Authority to allow for the construction of Saint Nicholas at Ground Zero.

Now the time has come to build the Saint Nicholas National Shrine at World Trade Center. AHEPA and its affiliated organizations, the Daughters of Penelope, Sons of Pericles, and Maids of Athena, will support the campaign to build the Saint Nicholas National Shrine by raising funds during the next two years.

The AHEPA Educational Foundation Presents

Programs for Students 2015

2015 Scholarship Application

Deadline: March 31, 2015

The new 2015 AHEPA Educational Foundation scholarship application is now available online! Last year, the AHEPA family awarded over \$1 million in combined scholarships. The deadline for the scholarship application is March 31, 2015. Download your application at www.ahepa.org!

AHEPA/Stavros Niarchos Journey to Greece Program

Deadline: March 31, 2015

The 2015 AHEPA/Stavros Niarchos Educational Journey to Greece will be taking place from June 26th - July 27th, and is now accepting applications. Since 1968, AHEPA has sent thousands of Greek American youth to Greece with this program. The program offers students the opportunity to transfer up to six college credits and to introduce them to the beauty of Greece. Applications must be received by March 31, 2015, Download your application at www.ahepa.org!

AHEPA/Deree Semester Abroad

AHEPA has partnered with Deree, The American College of Greece, to offer AHEPA students a qualified college semester abroad. Our special discount price for transferable credits, fall or spring semester.

\$9,347, including housing, per semester

\$7,528, including housing, summer term - 8 weeks

\$3,764, including housing, summer session - 4 weeks

If interested please send your contact info to: deree@ahpea.org

AHEPA/Pan Hellenic Scholarship Foundation

The AHEPA has partnered with the Pan Hellenic Scholarship Foundation to offer two spots in the Hellenic Birthright Program. Two lucky AHEPA family members will experience a unique educational and cultural opportunity. Students between the ages of 18 to 25, with limited financial means, who have NEVER been to Greece, may apply. The dates of this program are June 19 - July 19. Those students who are accepted will be required to purchase airfare only, all other expenses will be covered.

If interested please email your name and contact info to: PanHellenic@ahpea.org

AHEPA/NHS Heritage Greece Program

Deadline: March 27, 2015

AHEPA has partnered with the National Hellenic Society to offer our youth a once in a lifetime opportunity to explore Greek heritage, culture, and identity with a peer group of students from the United States and Greece. Candidates will be selected to receive this gift from AHEPA and the National Hellenic Society if they meet the following criteria:

They are currently enrolled undergraduate college students of Greek American descent.

Between the ages of 18 & 26.

Have never been, or seldom go to Greece.

GPA of 3.0 or higher.

The program runs from June 11th - June 18th and has an application deadline of March 27, 2015.

If interested in applying to this program, please send contact info to: NHS@ahpea.org

continued on next page

AHEPAcademy Deadline: April 1, 2015

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. 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 2014-2015 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 on www.AHEPAcademy.com. The early action deadline for submission of completed applications to AHEPAcademy is March 1, 2015.

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 detailed information and application please visit: AHEPAcademy

AHEPA/Aristotelian University Greek Immersion Elective

Deadline: March 1, 2015

Greek-American and Philhellene University Professor Dr. Dean Lomis, working in concert with the instructors from Aristotle University in Thessaloniki, have reached an agreement with the AHEPA Educational Foundation to provide a unique and masterful program on Greek as an elective language course towards college credit. This summer all Greek American students wishing to take up to 6 elective college credits can choose to take this unique class in Thessaloniki. The University sponsors the classes and additional course work, for an AHEPA discounted 600 Euro. All meals and housing is the responsibility of the student. Deadline is March 1, 2015,

Daughters of Penelope Sparta Chapter #18

SIP & SHOP

Spend a fabulous afternoon with your girlfriends sipping wine, sampling savory and sweet bites & shopping from your local vendors.

Saturday, April 18th, 2015

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church
 970 West March Lane
 Stockton 95207
Constantine & Evanthis Spanos Community Center

\$10.00 Entry Fee

Raffle prizes from the vendors!!

Jewelry • Purses • Desserts • Clothing • Home Decor • Wine • Organizing • Handmade Goods



Founded July
26, 1922
Atlanta, Georgia

Order of AHEPA

District No. 21
Educational Foundation
Nick Pries, PDG, Chairman
1420 Courtyard Dr.
San Jose, Ca. 95118
408-978-8321

OUR SCHOLARS DESERVE YOUR HELP!!

The Order of AHEPA, District 21 Educational Foundation represents one of the finest projects of our Order. Each year the Foundation rewards deserving students with scholarship awards of \$1,000 to assist in ever escalating college related costs. Each chapter is invited to encourage worthy students in their communities to apply for these awards. It is expected that each chapter would also offer their financial support an individual scholarship or to assist in the funding of the Foundation General Fund which provides scholarships each year.

The Educational Foundation Board of Directors and I am encouraging each chapter to offer support to this project. Individual donations of \$1,050 will cover the costs of awarding a \$1,000 scholarship which will bear the name of the contributing chapter. Individuals may also sponsor similar scholarships in the memory of a dearly departed family member. A donation of any amount made payable to the District #21 Educational Foundation and mailed to 5515 N. Fresno St. #111, Fresno, CA. 93710 will assist in making the treasury of the foundation stronger to better assure that scholarships will be awarded for many years in the future.

The AHEPA Scholarship Foundation is a registered non-profit 501 C3 organization. Please do your part to insure the future of our young scholars. They represent the pride of the Order of AHEPA and our community at large.

Respectfully,

Bill Booras, Secretary
Educational Foundation Board
vasiliosbooras@att.net

Fresno Leto Chapter #71

by Eleni Rotous Rockas, M.D.

WELCOME to Year 2015! Happy New Year!!!!

Helen & Bob Sexton, Past District Governors, hosted our Christmas Dinner at their beautiful home on December 5, 2014. We all brought our singing voices with us as well as our delicious contributions to the evening meal.

We joined Helen to celebrate **“COMING TO AMERICA... FIFTY YEARS AGO!!!!!!”** Helen shared her experiences and several of our members spoke about their immigration from the **“Land of the Gods & Heroes—HELLAS to the United States!!!!**

Toward the end of the evening we sang our hearts out with Christmas songs and we were fortunate to be entertained by our young singing sensation, **Brother Constantine Pappas!!**

At our Feb 4 meeting we added two members to our roster—**Heidi Frembling R.N. & Marcia Taylor** were initiated to our Order. **Mavra Patropoulos**, interior designer, reinstated to our chapter...**WELCOME SISTERS!!**



Heidi Frembling and Marcia Taylor

We are looking forward to **“AN EVENING IN GREECE”** on February 21 at our church hall with vocal performances by members of the Fresno Opera Society and dinner prepared by the Daughters of Penelope. Watch for the next Ahepa Traveler.

“The best way to find yourself

Is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

--Mahatma Gandhi

San Jose AHEPA Family

Since the last issue of the *Traveler* the San Jose Chapters of the AHEPA and DOP been very active.

Rebuild St. Nicholas Church. On Sunday, December the 7th we hosted the church coffee hour and raised \$900 towards the national project.

Christmas Ornament Exchange. The Daughters also held their annual event on Sunday, December 7th. Proceeds were given to the St. Nicholas GOYA Angel Tree Project of giving assigned gifts to foster children.



Annual Christmas Dinner was held on Wednesday, December 10th at the Flames Eatery in downtown San Jose. Raised \$200 for the Sleep Train Foster Children Project.

District Lodge Visitation was held on Saturday, January 17th at the St. Nicholas Community Center. A peasant lunch was served of avgolemono soup, salad, garlic bread and dessert.

Upcoming events include:

Chapters will host a guest speaker and potluck dinner on Wednesday, March 4th following the Presanctified Liturgy.

Cioppino Dinner Night to be held on Saturday, March 28th. Everyone invited - see enclosed flyer. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Guest soloist Constantine Pappas. Proceeds will benefit the St. Nicholas Ranch dormitory renovation project.

High School Graduate Luncheon. Host to honor the graduates on Sunday, May 17.

St. Nicholas Festival May 29-31. Chapters will chair the festival dining room. Preparing and serving.

Annual Family Barbecue to be held in the Church Courtyard on June 16th.

Then, of course, we have the District and National Conventions in June and July. See you there!

CIOPPINO DINNER NIGHT



SALAD • PASTA • SHELL FISH IN A DELICIOUS BROTH • DESSERT

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2015

ST. NICHOLAS COMMUNITY CENTER

6:30pm No Host Cocktails 7:30pm Dinner

Early Bird Adults \$35 After March 15 \$45 Students \$20

For Reservations and Tickets contact:

Bill Christie Email: billchristie1@mac.com (408) 531-9211

Linda Belba Email: ljbella@yahoo.com (408) 234-9226

or

Mail: Return lower portion with check payable to AHEPA

Tickets must be purchased in advance - no tickets sold at the door.

Sponsored by San Jose AHEPA Family

Proceeds benefit St. Nicholas Building Fund and St. Nicholas Ranch Dormitory Renovation

RESERVATION FORM (Early Bird deadline March 15)

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Number ____ of Adult tickets @ \$35 \$ _____ After March 15 Adults \$45 \$ _____

Number ____ of Child tickets @ \$20 \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Make checks payable to AHEPA

I/we would like to be seated with _____

MAIL TO: Bill Christie - 3327 Lake Albano Circle - San Jose, CA 95135

Tickets will be held at the door. Please send in reservation by Sunday, March 15

Ochi Day

by *Chris Andrews, Reno Chapter #281*

Our whole lives can be judged by a singular act.

An individual with a blemished past and tremendous personal defects can be defined by a moment of greatness.

Greece's Ioannis Metaxas was such a man. Metaxas had a questionable history as a leader and as a man.

Metaxas was appointed prime minister by King George II and confirmed by the parliament during a period of great political unrest in Greece. He ruled constitutionally for the first four months of his reign then declared he personally would hold all power in Greece until further notice.

His regime was patterned after other fascist governments, like Germany, Spain and most notably, Italy.

He burned books by Johann Goethe, George Bernard Shaw, Sigmund Freud, and even Plato's Republic. Like many successful leaders he also instituted policies popular with the people like eight hour workdays, improved working conditions and the Social Insurance Institute (Greek Social Security). Nonetheless, Metaxas' seat of power was not secured by the people, but by the King and the military.

As a young man Metaxas studied in Germany, and by the late 1930s Germany had become Greece's largest trading partner. It was easy to see why Hitler and Mussolini thought they had a kindred spirit in the Greek dictator.

By fall of 1940, the Axis powers needed to protect its southern flank and Greece's strategic military location was as significant as it was in ancient times.

Hitler conferred with his Italian counterpart, expressing his desire to anchor his position deep into the eastern Mediterranean.

Mussolini told Hitler he was confident Metaxas would accede to his wishes, and even more confident that were he not to do so, the Italian Army would run right through Greece and secure the ports and airstrips it needed.

At 4:00 a.m. on the morning of October 28, 1940, Emanuele Grazzi, the Italian ambassador to Greece, presented Metaxas an ultimatum, yield your strategic locations to the Axis powers or it will be war.

Metaxas, suffering from the toxemia that would take his life three months later, rose spiritually as well as physically to give the ambassador his one word answer, "No," "Ochi" in Greek. And war it was.

At 5:30 that very same morning the Italians attacked Greece's northern border through Albania, which had been an Italian protectorate.

The Italians did not march through Greece as Hitler

had assumed, as Mussolini had promised. The Greek Army didn't just stop the Italians at the Albanian border, it drove them back, and the Greeks advanced into its ancient lands of Epirus that belonged to Greece during Antiquity.

A displeased Hitler had to detour his Nazi troops to Greece to rescue the failed Italian mission.

Eventually the German army did take mainland Greece, but months after it had planned. Now the time had come for the Germans to take the island of Crete, the southernmost point in all of Europe, which it wanted from the beginning of the campaign. Once again the Greeks, not the Greek Army, the Greeks, or more accurately the Cretans, slowed the advance.

While the fighting military men of Crete were enlisted in the Greek army, the island of Crete was defended by storekeepers and clerks, farmers and shepherds.

The people of Greece had fought so bravely, it inspired Winston Churchill to say "Hence you will not say that Greeks fight like heroes, but that heroes fight like Greeks."

Because of those Greeks, Hitler had to re-figure his plans to invade Russia, one of his primary goals from the outset of the war.

While the Russians, the British and the Americans can all take their share of credit for stopping Hitler, it was a force of nature that ultimately stopped the Nazis. Do you want to call it God's hand? Feel free. While Stalin, Churchill, Truman, Roosevelt, Eisenhower, Patton and Montgomery all played an essential role, nothing stopped Hitler and the Nazis like the Russian winter.

And while western civilization acknowledges Greece for creating the principals that have dictated our world for over two millennia, it must also credit Greece once more. The world must credit Greece for disrupting the plans of a madman to dominate the world with his psychotic vision of authority and servitude.

For without Greece, the War that has defined our modern world, might have turned out much differently. For without one man, one very flawed man, and his foresight or courage or perhaps God speaking through him at that moment, we might have a much different existence today.

And those momentous events, those significant, history altering developments started with one little word that held the force of a nation and all humanity behind it. "Ochi!"

Editors Note: This article is being republished under the authorship of Chris Andrews. The December/ Winter 2014 issue mistakenly listed a different author.



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