

# It's that time of year . . . . . .



# 2016 AHEPA SUPREME CONVENTION

The 94th Annual AHEPA Supreme Convention is right around the corner and we've put together this information sheet to help answer any questions you may have about getting to Las Vegas.

### WHEN:

July 24th – July 30th **WHERE:** 

The Mirage 3400 S. Las Vegas Blvd.Las Vegas, NV 89109 800–374-9000

See page 7 for more info and www.ahepa.org



Western Regional District Convention Hosted by District 20 ~in Anaheim, CA

# 2016 AHEPA DISTRICT CONVENTION

The Western Regional District Convention is just a few days away. If you have not made your arrangements go to the convention website www.ahepa-wrdc.org to make your reservations.

#### WHEN:

June 23rd – June 26th *WHERE:* Doubletree by Hilton 100 The City Drive Orange, CA 92868 714-634-4500

See page 6 for more info and www.ahepa-wrdc.org

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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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## DOP DISTRICT LODGE 2015-2016

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# Greetings from the District Governor...



### ELECTIONS AND CONVENTIONS UPCOMNG:

This is the last of the season until after all of the conventions and elections are completed. First I must say that my year as Governor

was fulfilling and although nerve racking at times, it was truly very special. I would definitely wish to thank my lodge for all their work and support during this time. A special thank you must be sent to our DOP district lodge for all of their work and cooperation. Governor Beverly Kennedy and her lodge was with us all the way, a fine and loving brother and sister relationship.

I wasn't able to complete all of the promises

I made to myself for our district, however, we put them out there and they are moving right along. My most favorite project was/is the restoration of the Saint Nicholas Ranch Ahepa dormitory. This is a four phase building project and we have completed one phase. You will be able to see the photos in the District #21 website. Our donated money has not gone to waste. You will be able to see the expert workmanship and steps moving forward with this project. We have spent \$49K so far and have \$15K to start phase two, more donations would certainly help our cause. Remember, The Ranch is for our children and grandchildren.

I hope to see you at the WRDC and/or the Supreme Conventions. We need to initiate some strong changes and your votes would count. Have a great summer and we will be back at it in the fall.

Fraternally;

*William L. Anton* Governor District 21



# 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.

# Daughters of Penelope District Governor's Message



SUMMER! ... Western Regional District Convention, Supreme Convention, Picnics, Barbeques, Vacations and Everyday Life ... So much to do, so little time!

Impossible to believe that we are just one month away from the end of our fiscal year. Our

forthcoming Western Regional District Convention in Anaheim June 23-25 promises to be a most enjoyable time. Beyond our business sessions, we'll have an opportunity to ...

- spend quality time with our Brothers and Sisters from surrounding districts
- meet and greet at Welcome Night on Thursday

• enjoy the Glendi hosted by the Anaheim AHEPA Chapter on Friday evening

• learn about this year's Scholarship recipients at the Scholarship Awards Luncheon on Saturday

• be entertained at the Grand Banquet on Saturday –

o Jenni Pulos, a unique Emmy-nominated Greek American actress, comedian, writer, producer and singer will MC

o Chris Hillman, Rock and Roll Hall of Famer along with the Agape Trio, will perform; Chris is being presented AHEPA District 20's Periclean of the Year Award. (There's also a chance to own a piece of Rock and Roll history and support the Saint Nicholas National Shrine by purchasing tickets to win a new Chris Hillman Signature Byrds Bass Guitar, personally autographed by Chris. Please contact me if you are interested in supporting this cause.)

There's still time to place an ad in our **District Convention Album** if you haven't already done so. June 5 is the last day to submit an album ad. Contact me at 209-815-6052 to ensure ad placement.

WRDC registration and/or purchase of individual event tickets has been extended to June 4. After that date, anyone who still has not registered should contact Convention Chair Wynn Storton ... wynn@ ahepadistrict20.org

There will be an AHEPA Family Marketplace at the WRDC where Chapters will have an opportunity to sell merchandise and share fundraising ideas. You must contact me at capoodlegirls@gmail.com if your Chapter wants to sell items at the Marketplace so we can set up a sufficient number of tables. Selling of merchandise will not be allowed in the general meeting rooms.

**St. Nicholas Ranch Dorm Renovation Project** – Phase 1 is complete and the AHEPA Family is now working to raise funds so we can begin Phase 2. It's not too late to purchase our opportunity drawing tickets in support of this very important effort. Tickets are 3 for \$20 or 1 for \$10. Please contact Lt. Governor Foula Vasilogiorgis or me to help us reach our goal for this year. The prize drawing will be held at the Grand Banquet on June 25.

Next up will be the **AHEPA Family Supreme Convention, Las Vegas, NV July 25-30** – at the Mirage Hotel and Casino. The special AHEPA room rate of \$90 ends June 24. Phone (800) 374-9000 and mention that you are with AHEPA or book online at https:// aws.passkey.com/event/14567179/owner/4940/home. Delegate/Alternate registration is \$275 if purchased by June 24 (\$375 after June 24). Also, please support the Daughters of Penelope and AHEPA by placing ads in their respective commemorative albums. Go to http:// www.daughtersofpenelope.org/Forms-More.html for Supreme Convention forms and a tentative agenda.

Thanks to the outstanding effort of the Sisters of District 22, we enjoyed a beautiful April weekend in Seattle at the Sisterhood Conference. All members of the Golden Gate District 21 Lodge attended, and we had a very enjoyable and well-attended conference.

I have truly enjoyed serving as your District Governor this past year. Many PDGs told me it would be an incredible experience, and they were right! My heartfelt appreciation to our District Lodge officers and to all members in our eleven Daughters of Penelope Chapters for your encouragement and support. Daughters of Penelope District 21 is the largest in number in the U.S. and by continuing to work together we have the opportunity to make D21 bigger and even better. I also extend my gratitude to AHEPA District 21 Governor Bill Anton, the AHEPA Lodge and members of AHEPA for your kindness and support.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the WRDC in Anaheim and at the Supreme in Las Vegas!

On behalf of the District Lodge – Foula Vasilogiorgis, Mary Gavrilis, Cat Andrews, Vaso Moulas and Kathy Leles – my very best wishes to each of you and your loved ones for safe travels and a great summer!

Love in Theta Pi,

*Bev Kennedy* District Governor



# IT'S A WRAP!

Submitted by Jan Spanos Daughters of Penelope Grand Vice President International Growth and Expansion Chairman

Where has the time gone? It seems that there are never enough hours in any single day to accomplish everything on our "to do" lists. It seems as if it was last week that we were in San Francisco for the Supreme Convention and here we are just weeks away from reconvening in Las Vegas....where indeed has the time gone?

This year we have been busy planting the idea that we hope will take root, that we must all diligently work to "ASPIRE TO KEEP ALEXANDRA'S DREAM ALIVE". Each of us has been encouraged and challenged to endeavor to use new skills to increase our memberships. It is heart-warming to see that there are new faces in our numbers. We happily welcome them into our chapters. We extend appreciation to our veteran members for maintaing their active role in our chapters.

We are so very fortunate to belong to an incredible District that continues to forge the way for many others to emulate. To that end, we must all act as Human Resource Managers and extend our hands to friends, neighbors and our communities at large and invite Christian women to join us in the pursuit of fulfilling our Mission Statement and not allow the flame that burns in our hearts for the love of our Order--The Daughters of Penelope and the entire Ahepa Family--to be extinguished. I am humbled each time that I am able to look into the eyes of our Chapter Charter Members and see the flame still alive and burning brightly with love, tolerance, beauty and loyalty for our Order.

Let us take this opportunity to remember those who have served and are serving in our military; to remember those members who have been instrumental in carving the path for us to follow; to remember those who mentored us and pay forward in kind. Let's remember smiles and kindnesses that encouraged us to be the best that we can be and bring honor to our Order. Let us take the valuable time allowed us to continue on our journey enabling us to promote Hellenism, Philanthropy and Civic Responsibility with the passion of our initiation into the Daughters of Penelope and the Ahepa Family.



• Special Events

with special performance



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# WHEN:

July 24th – July 30th **WHERE:** 

The Mirage 3400 S. Las Vegas Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89109 800 – 374 - 9000

**ROOM RATE:** AHEPA has secured an incredibly affordable room rate of \$90 per night (plus tax and resort fee) for convention attendees. It is available by telling reservation staff that you are with the AHEPA group when making your reservations.

The AHEPA room rate EXPIRES June 24, 2016, so book ASAP!

## **BOOK ONLINE:**

Members can book their rooms online by visiting:

https://aws.passkey.com/ event/14567179/owner/4940/home

# **OTHER FAQ:**

## WHEN DO I NEED TO BE THERE?

Registration opens at 9am Monday, July 25th. The election of convention officers, business sessions, and Opening Ceremonies will take place on Monday.

### WHERE DO I FLY INTO?

McCarran International Airport (LAS)

### *IS THERE SHUTTLE SERVICE TO THE HOTEL?*

Several companies offer shuttle service to and from McCarran International Airport (approximately \$7.00 per person). Signs are posted on the transportation level at the airport outside baggage claim which will direct you to the shuttle area.

Please remember that the room rate is only guaranteed through June 24th. Make sure to tell the hotel you are with AHEPA in order to secure this rate. If you have any issues, please call AHEPA headquarters at 202-232-6300.

AHEPA Delegates should be elected in the chapters in March, April and May of this year. All Delegate forms are required to be into AHEPA headquarters no later than midnight June 1. Only paid members can be seated as delegates so please make sure your chapter has sent in your dues.

See you in Las Vegas!



# DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE 2016 DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



#### Nikoletta Dimitrios Karapanos

Sponsor: Sparta #18

Undergraduate Award \$2,000 Past District Governors' League

Nikki is a senior at Lodi High School with an impressive high school transcript that ranks her in the top 5% of her class. She has pursued a rigorous college prep course of study including the study of French (she is also fluent in Greek), a blend of AP coursework, dance, jazz, and wind instruments. She has been a leader and drum major of the Lodi High School Honor Band and an accomplished flute, oboe, and violin player. In the community she actively and generously gives time and talent to the Maids of Athena, Greek Orthodox

Youth of America, church volunteering competitive dance, banquet organization, sock drive for the homeless, math tutoring, teaching music lessons, blood donating, and hosting exchange students. Actively involved with St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church, she is a parishioner who for the past 13 years has participated in the choir and Greek dance. And on top of all this, Nikki also has a part time job at a local super market. Nikki plans to attend Cosumnes River College with a potential major in international business.



#### Vasiliki Elizabeth Koutsoulis

Sponsor: Maids of Athena #278

Undergraduate Award \$2,500 District 21 Scholarship

Vasiliki is a senior at Stockton Collegiate International Secondary School in Stockton. She holds an impressive GPA of 4.3 in the challenging international baccalaureates world school. She will be attending UCLA with a major in sociology. Vasiliki's letters of recommendation speak of a strong gifted student who excels and holds numerous awards from the speech and debate team and as a talented actress who participates in community theater projects. According to Speech and Debate Coach, Hauna Zaich, "She is one of the

most globally and social conscious students I have met." Vasiliki is also a committed twelve-year member to her Greek Dance troupe. She has volunteered many hours of her time to fund raising events at St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church. She has sung the Greek Christmas Carols at home visits, served crab feeds, helped bake pastries, worked long hours at festival booths, set up and cleaned up the hall after events – always with a smile and kindness! With a degree in sociology she hopes to gain a global understanding and empathy to initiate the change she wants to see in the world.



#### **Evangelia Marguerite Pappas**

Sponsor: Leto #71

Undergraduate Award \$2,500 District 21 Scholarship

Evangelia is a senior at Clovis East High School and holds an impressive 3.8 GPA blending honors and AP courses, drama, dance, pep and cheer, and music ensemble. She has also been heavily involved in the Clovis East Dance Repertory Company and has held leading roles over the years where she has been a dancer, choreographer, actress and singer. According to Arthur Gonos, retired high school teacher and principal, "Evangelia's greatest asset is

her beautiful singing voice." Through her involvement with St. George Greek Orthodox Church she has been involved in Greek Dance for 13 years and has served as director for the youngest dance group (four year olds), participated in the Sunday School program, youth and adult choirs and has eagerly volunteered to assist in church

projects like the annual Crab Feed, the Greek Food Festival, and preparation of food baskets several times each year. She will be attending the University of San Francisco with a major in biology in preparation for becoming a doctor. This statement from Evangelia's essay sums up her purpose and goals. "Growing up as the daughter of a priest, I had a front row view of a life devoted to God, to family, and to taking care of an extended community of parishioners and others who came to the church with needs." This planted a desire in her heart to pursue a career in medicine.



#### Marina Louise Kosturos

Sponsor: Elis 89

Undergraduate Award \$1,000 District 21 Scholarship - Memory of Byron C. Gavrilis Marina is currently a junior at UC Berkeley majoring in nutritional science with the ultimate goal of becoming a dentist. She holds an impressive 3.761 and has been on the Deans' Honor List during her time at UCB. Marina has known since 5th grade that she would pursue dentistry as a career and has been shadowing in many dental offices, orthodontic, and other types of dental offices for the past 5 years. Currently she is involved in dental education Outreach and tutors 1st -3rd graders at a local Berkeley elementary school. She

has enjoyed growing up in a large Greek family and taught the tradition of the heritage whether making Baklava, attending Greek weddings or playing the egg cracking game at Easter. Her great-uncle, Father Anthony Kosturos, served the priesthood for 55 years and he greatly strengthened her love for the Greek Orthodox Church.



#### Hariklia Christina Frangos

Sponsor: Urania #290

Undergraduate Award \$2,000 Angela Mouroufas Memorial Scholarship

Hariklia is currently a senior at Sequoia Union High School in Belmont. She holds a GPA of 4.2 in a rigorous course of study that includes AP courses, chorus, jazz band, journalism, biotech, and soccer. According to Jarrod Harrison, Social Studies Teacher writes, "Hariklia is unique among her peers because, in spite of being an accomplished student, athlete, and musician, she is still a kind and genuine person. She has been a dominant force in the local soccer community and also sings for both community and school choirs, and plays trumpet

and piano in the community and for the school bands. She is a strong individual but also a team player that know how to work with her peers." Justin Raisner, Journalism Advisor writes: "Hariklia has emerged as a leader who is helping to teach a new generation of younger students how to be good, ethical news reporters. She added multimedia to stories and school website where she taught herself to create and embed interactive graphics, and transformed published stories from plain to fantastic." The influences of her grandfather's hard work and struggle have instilled the Greek values of perseverance, effort, confidence and education. She has been accepted to many top schools across the country and will make her decision by May. She plans to pursue a career in computer science or cognitive studies.



#### Maria Eleni Leles

Sponsor: Sparta #18

Graduate

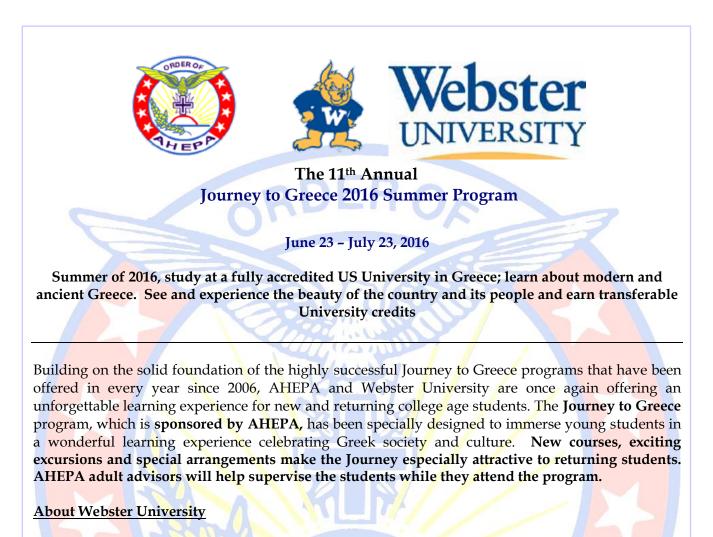
\$2,000 District 21 Re-Entry Scholarship

Maria holds a bachelors degree from Sacramento State University in Health Science with a concentration in Health Care Administration. She is currently employed by Palo Alto Medical Facility, a Sutter Health affiliate (Sunnyvale, CA) and pursuing a master's degree (online) through Louisiana State University in Shreveport. The master's degree will allow her to advance in the health care industry. Maria's letters of recommendation talk about her strong work ethic and positive attitude. Maria is a parishioner at St. Basil Greek

#### Summer/June 2016

AHEPA TRAVELER

Orthodox Church in Stockton and is presently a member of the Daughters of Penelope Sparta #18 Chapter and currently holds the Warden position for the chapter. Maria writes: "My culture and heritage was passed to me by my grandparents, my extended family, and parents who passed down the true stories of those that came before me as well as the hardships they faced as children during the war in Greece, but also as immigrants to the US. The unifying element of the Greek Orthodox Church became important in their lives and continues to do so in mine. I cling on to my faith in everything I do and will someday pass on my Greek Christian values, traditions and faith to my children."



#### **History**

Webster University, founded in 1915 with its home campus based in St. Louis, Missouri, USA, is the only Tier 1, private, nonprofit university with campus locations around the world including metropolitan, military, online and corporate, as well as American-style traditional campuses in North America, Europe and Asia. With over 160,000 Alumni and 22,000 students from 50 States and 148 Countries Webster is defining global education for the future. Small, highly interactive classes encourage innovation, collaboration, and self-expression. Students have all the advantages of a student-centered university that supports personalized learning and gives every student an opportunity to excel.

For more information and an application go to: www.ahepa.org/projects





**Chrysanthe Pappas** grasps the positive contribution that the arts make to the lives of individuals and to the community. The first time she stepped on a theater stage, she felt the power of her performing ability and fell in love. She delights in giving audiences happiness and in the possibility of helping people through her art. Majoring in music with vocal performance option at Cal State University Fresno, Chrysanthe has performed in operas both at her college and in the community. She was soprano section leader in the music department while earning a 3.7 GPA. Her Professor of Voice and Opera admires her "wonderful soprano instrument", her talent for acting and movement on stage, and the

"high degree of excellence" that she brings to whatever she attempts. At the Metropolis of San Francisco Summer Camp (the Greek Orthodox Church's main 7-state regional summer camp), Chrysanthe assumed the challenging roles of cabin counselor and Arts and Crafts Coordinator.



**Christopher Hamamjy** writes a passionate personal statement with focus on his desire to become an infectious disease physician. His GPA from Lincoln High School is 3.6 with coursework in science and math and 3.7 at West Valley-Mission Community College. After West Valley College he plans to transfer to UC-Davis for a B.S. degree in biochemistry and molecular biology. Christopher is well rounded with honor roll recognition, is a hockey player, varsity golf participant, and saxophone player. He was a GOYA member, and Greek Festival volunteer. His two reference letters are very positive, one mentions his being courteous and respectful with a great sense of humor. The second letter from his Anatomy and Physiology teacher mentions his dedication, service, and intelligence.



**Danica Mathew** is a well-rounded, disciplined scholar and musician. Intending to become a physician, last year she completed an internship at Renown Medical Center with the Washoe County Gifted and Talented program. Danica has an unweighted 3.7 GPA at Reno High School, is a member both of the school's National Honors Society and of the cross-country team, and serves as Business Advertising Editor for the school yearbook. Danica's We the People team will compete in the National Competition later this month, after having won the District Competition and placing second at the State Level. She plays violin with her school orchestra and with the Reno Youth Philharmonic. Excelling at so many endeavors, no wonder her school counselor highlights Danica's grit, "with a capital 'G."' He adds that she has pursued "the most rigorous courses of study available to her..."

At her church, Danica also makes time to sing in the choir, participate in the Greek dance group and volunteer at the Annual Greek Festival.



**Christina Karamanos** wishes to pursue a degree in economics, according to her personal essay; she has an interest in sales. With a GPA of 3.9 from Valley Christian High School in San Jose she is on her way to success. Christina wishes to complete her undergraduate degree from Penn-State University. Her application lists her receiving a Presidential Academic Achievement Award, choir participation, Greek dance and GOYA participation as well as work with underprivileged elementary school students. Her two reference letters are highly supportive. One letter from her High School counselor mentions her "desire to serve others", her "depth of character", love for others and generosity. The second reference lists Christina's love of music, passion for family and faith, as well as her outstanding academic accomplishments.





**Yvonna Molodanof** writes a personal essay with focus on a unique dual interest. She plans to attend Cal Poly San Luis Obispo to pursue an Agricultural degree, and then combine that interest with law and become an attorney. Currently she attends Saint Francis High School with a weighted GPA of 3.5. She combines academic achievement with activities such as Greek dance, basketball, track and field participation, President of Healthy Lifestyles Club, St. John's shelter volunteer and others. Yvonna also works for her parents at their yogurt business. One reference letter mentions her assistance with fundraising, and a mission trip to Nicaragua. Her second reference from her Science Instructor mentions her class math award, and preparation to be student leader on a Kairos retreat.

**Elias Stassinopoulos** describes yearly summer visits to his grandparents' home in Evia, where he and "the saplings have been nurtured and strengthened by all that Greece" has given him. He purposefully was placed in a U.S. high school with a student body comprised of 20% Caucasians and a broad mix of other races. His personal heritage and high school experience taught him an appreciation of those different from himself and of the benefits that can arise when multiple cultures come together. While earning a 3.7 UC/CSU GPA in high school, Elias was president and founder of the school music club, and captain of the varsity soccer team, earning the Golden Boot soccer award. His AP US Government and Politics teacher cites his rare ability to listen, animated by an inquiring interest in the views of his classmates. Elias' AP English teacher/mentor notes his terrific college-level

presentation skills. Elias intends to study political science at Whitman College to further prepare himself to be an effective mediator and change agent for resolving social problems. This young man promises to be a positive force in the communities he joins.



Allison N. Mavrakis writes a personal essay which expresses a desire to teach high school. She plans to attend Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego for a B.A. degree in Literature, and then a Masters degree and teaching credential. Allison writes extremely well, and holds a 4.3 GPA (9th ranked out of 357 seniors at Westmont High School). She is a National Merit Scholar, section leader in a marching band (playing flute), member of the Christian Club and Red Cross Club, worked with Grace Children's Home Orphanage in Mexico, as well as other Church and Civic activities. Her references mention her "quiet integrity", her leadership abilities, and her "love of learning and constant yearning to make a difference".



**Vasili Karapanos** is a well rounded, academically and musically accomplished young man whose life decisions and plans speak to a deep commitment to family, faith community and Greek heritage. Vasili chose to attend Cosumnes River College both to save his family money and to help his father with his construction company, without compensation. Helping his father while earning a 3.7 GPA during his first termat Cosumnes, Vasili assumed a leadership position with the Sons of Pericles, continues to volunteer for his parish church's events, serves as a musician, singer and dancer with the parish Greek dance group, and plays several instruments with his college jazz band. Vasili has returned many times to his hometown of Argos. This straddling of the Greek and American worlds enabled him to discover his vocational and life goals: to work in aviation maintenance

management so that he can live in Greece, marry a Greek woman and live on an island far from Athens.Vasili's Greek heritage-its language, culture and values is a driving force of his life.



Alexander Magganas engaged in an English class project that prompted him to interview a UC Berkeley professor of material science. This experience changed Alexander's life. He found that his choice to become a material scientist fed his lifelong quest to understand how things work and how they are made, and also supported his goal to improve the human condition. To date, Alexander has completed 70 college units, 52 at Peralta Community College and 18 at the University of Illinois at Urbana, with an overall 3.1 GPA. His science teacher at Piedmont High School describes Alexander as offering "unique insight" to class discussions. His high school social studies teacher writes of her admiration of Alexander's maturity and perception. A third letter of recommendation mentions how he volunteered at various events and was an excellent learner of the Greek language when he attended the Ascension Cathedral's Greek School. Alexander's application does not include a Counselor or Principal's Statement



**Nicole Andrea Ganetsos** graduated from Mira Loma High School in 2015, and now attends the University of Oregon; her GPA is 3.4. Nicole studies business and concentrates on marketing. Her essay mentions her desire to eventually attend graduate school, and work in an advertising agency. The application lists several honors and activities. Among them are Public Relations Chair of a sorority, American Marketing Association member, swim team member, GOYA member for six years, Greek dance, serving meals to the homeless, and others. Nicole's application contains two supportive reference letters. One letter from her former Social Studies teacher notes her strong self-motivation, maturity, and effective communication skills. The second letter is from a family friend; while it mentions Nicole's strong social skills, and abilities to discuss local and world affairs among other positive characteristics.



# San Francisco AHEPA Family

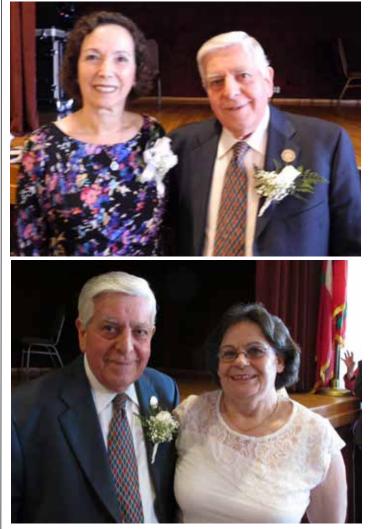
#### by Marion Parashis

#### **Past President's Luncheon**

A Past Presidents' Luncheon was held on Sunday, February 28th, 2016 at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco, Ca., chaired by a well-organized Sister, Sophia Fonti, and her EOS#1 group honoring Elias Tsiknis of the Golden Gate Pacific Chapter #150 and Elaine Makras of EOS#1. In attendance were District 21 Governors Beverly Kennedy and Bill Anton. Representing the Daughters were District 21 Lt. Governor Foula Vasilogiorgis (an EOS Sister), District 21 Secretary Mary Gavrilis, and District 21 Marshal Vaso Moulas (an EOS Sister and a recipient of a 25 year Pin). Also, Past National Penelope also holding the title of Past Chapter President and Past District 21 Governor, Mary Chicos, and Past Chapter President and Past District 21 Governor Sophia Eliopoulos were a sight to behold among us all. From the Ahepan District 21 Lodge, District Secretary Alex Mallas was present as well as Past District Governor, Past Chapter President and Ahepan Man of the Year Paul Eliopoulos and Past District Governor and Past Chapter President Jim Dariotes.

Both Past Presidents of their Chapters, Elias and Elaine, were paid tribute for their outstanding loyalty and dedication to the Ahepan Family, and both respective Chapters felt emotional pride for their undying love and total support. The spirit in this beautifully decorated room was also highlighted by deserving pins and certificates received by Sisters and Brothers for years of service, namely the highest for the Ahepans; Peter Kireopoulos (Past Chapter President) and Peter Roosakos (Past Chapter President and Past District 21 Lt. Governor), 60 years of membership. For the Daughters in EOS, the exceptional recipients were Connie Panagotacos, 75 years and Ackie Argyres, a 65 year Sister, both Sisters having served as Past Chapter EOS#1 Presidents. Connie spoke of her love of Family and Friendships, and Ackie was heartfelt in her support and dedication for always attending the District and National Conventions with her parents beginning with her childhood years. Her memories brought many tears to the eyes of the audience. So many more deserving Sisters and Brothers received pins

and certificates that day, too numerous to name. However, if this type of attitude continues, hopefully, it will affect the younger generation and EOS #1 and the Golden Gate Pacific Chapter #150 will gain new members, willing and able to continue to enforce the exceptional Ahepan Family goals of local and national philanthropy. What a magnificent, realistic world we can continue to create if we are allowed to further our Hellenic beliefs! Our Ahepan Family with all of our Brothers and Sisters can complete a multitude of life changing tasks if we can rid our surroundings of petty, unimportant, disrespectful convictions. EOS#1 and the Golden Gate Pacific Chapter #150 can be truly commended along with their District 21 area chapters for striving to work to promote the Ahepa Family Mission Statement and to encourage individual excellence from their members. Leaders such as Elaine Makras and Elias Tsiknis will not be forgotten, and may God bring us more Sisters and Brothers to continue to walk in their footsteps.



PP Luncheon photos continued next 3 pages

AHEPA TRAVELER

Summer/June 2016



AHEPA TRAVELER

Summer/June 2016



AHEPA TRAVELER

Summer/June 2016



# Artemis Chapter #5 of Sacramento

#### by Pauline Cazanis

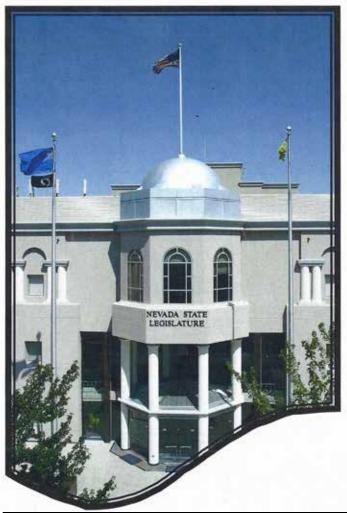
Artemis Chapter #5 of Sacramento participated in several interesting events this past month. We participated in the annual flag raising ceremony commemorating Greek Independence Day. The ceremony occurred after the Divine Liturgy at the Church of the Annunciation. After the ceremony and luncheon, several members banded together to attend the opening day release of MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING 2. The film brought back memories of the iconic original with its humorous but exaggerated view of Greek family life.

Artemis chapter embarked on a new way to

# Reno Chapter #281

by John Copoulos

A very successful celebration of Greek Independence Day. Honoring and remembering those who fought for freedom and what they believe in. We also remembered those still fighting and dying for their freedom today. Praying for peace and freedom for all. Proud to be a Greek American!!!



communicate the philanthropic and civic service traditions of the Daughters of Penelope to a wider audience. We co-sponsored, along with the AAUW, a city wide symposium on Taking Back the Night, the plight of sex trafficking in our city and state. The moderator of the symposium was Jan Scully, the former District Attorney of Sacramento. Before the opening of the presentation and discussion on ways to combat this tragic situation. the sponsoring organizations were given the opportunity to speak about our organization. We related the history of the Daughters of Penelope and our efforts on behalf of battered women. We received many positive comments and subsequently felt that we had promoted a new awareness of our beloved Daughters of Penelope.

# CERTIFICATE

The Flag of Greece



This certifies that this Flag of Greece was flown at the Nevada State Legislature on the 25th day of March 2016, to honor Greek Independence Day, at the request of John P. Copoulos, Reno Ahepa 281

> John J. Brown Legislative Police Flag Officer

# San Jose Ahepa Family News

The San Jose Ahepa and Daughters chapters hosted a lenten dinner following the Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesday, March 23rd. Following dinner, our guest speaker, Mr. Ivan Vuksanovich gave an interesting presentation snap shot of the life and working relationships of Saint Gregory Palamas.

**Greek Independence Day Flag Raising** was celebrated on Friday, March 25 at the San Jose City Hall Pavilion. San Jose City Councilman Johnny Khamis hosted the celebration with many San Jose City and Santa Clara County officials and dignitaries in attendance as well as AHEPA and DOP District 21 Governors Anton and Kennedy.

Speakers included His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos, Council General of Greece Demetrios Xenitellis, Father Demosthenes Paraskevaides of St. Nicholas Church of San Jose and San Jose City Mayor Sam Liccardo.

Sylvia Gundunas Kalivitis sang both USA and Greek national anthems as the flags were being raised. St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Award Winning Dance Group performed following the program.

AHEPA Chapter President Dr. Spiros Kalogeropulos is shown with a commendation plaque presented by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

Our chapters helped organize the event and hosted a reception following providing Greek sweets and refreshments. See more photos on the following page.

**Cioppino Dinner Night,** our annual fundraiser, was held on Saturday, April 16th at the St. Nicholas Community Center. Guests enjoyed salad, pasta, our classic cioppino, garlic bread and dessert - all served family style. 162 guests attended and were wonderfully entertained by opera singer, story teller and voice teacher Edie Delegans - even her father pitched in.

Sadly, our chapter has lost six brothers this past year: Nick Pagonis, Chris Panopoulos, Peter Pappas, Nick Perakis, William Capogeannis and Lambros Panayotopoulos. May their memory be eternal!





# Ahepa Chapter 251, San Jose

Brother Kenn (Kyriako) Christie, member of Silicon Valley Chapter 251, has been living and working in Greece on the Neamea Games project this past year. He has been keeping us up to date with his activities. Sharing this photo and latest input below.



"This is the meeting of our three AHEPAns in Marathokambos, Samos, Greece.

On the left is the chapter president, who is responsible for initiating the chapter. Native of Marathokambos, Samos ... but most of his adult life spent in Australia, where he was an active AHEPAN for many years, and in very recent years returned to Marathokambos and opened a beach taverna with his Australian wife.

In the middle, a 3rd-generation product of Marathokambos, invited to join the chapter. Grandparents from Marathokambos, Samos ... where they returned and finished out their lives. This member is only an annual or bi-ennial attendee in Marathokambos over the past 40-years.

On the right is the chapter Secretary ... also a Marathokambos, Samos native .... who thereafter left and spent much of his professional life in U.S. (mostly California - northern and southern) and returned to Marathokambos, Samos about 4-years ago, where he now lives with his wife."

Thought you'd get a kick out of our new and growing chapter ....

Kyriako

# **Celebrating the American Dream and Our Cultural Heritage**

Securing proper recognition for the contributions to America of Constantino Brumidi, "Artist of the Capitol"



Overview In the 110th Congress, the AHEPA family worked in cooperation with Italian American organizations to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal for Constantino Brumidi, the "Artist of the Capitol." Brumidi was a great American citizen of Greek and Italian descent. His frescoes and murals can be found throughout the U.S. Capitol. Brumidi's creations include his masterpiece, the allegorical fresco The Apotheosis of Washington, in the canopy of the Rotunda. He also painted the extensive frescoes in the Brumidi Corridors, which many believe to be the first true frescoes to be painted in this country. Brumidi's last years were spent painting the historic scenes in the Rotunda frieze. The consummate American, Brumidi is reported to have remarked: "My one ambition and my daily prayer is that I may live long enough to make beautiful the Capitol of the one country on earth in which there is liberty." Status We anticipate a Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda for Constantino Brumidi in 2010. Updated -On July 11, 2012 Executive Director Basil Mossaidis and DOP Executive Director Elena Saviolakis were invited to attend the Gold Medal Ceremony held in the US Capital. A bronze replica was awarded to the AHEPA for the participation and dedication to get the Gold Medal awarded. AHEPA was pushing for this recognition since 2004.

Editor's Note: This article is from the AHEPA National website ahepa.org for your reading interest.

# A Day at the Races . . . .

#### by District Governor William Anton

We had a great DAY AT THE RACES on May 28th. You can tell that by all of the smiley faces. Much fun, laughter, food, drink, and only a few winners this time. I will plan another event in the fall. So let's go for a DAY AT THE RACES. Sponsored by the Ahepa District Lodge #21.







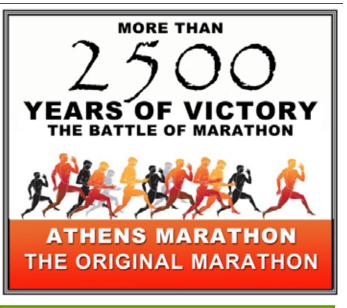
# **AHEPA VETERANS REGISTRATION**

# 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



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Oakland #171 Second Tuesday Ascension Cathedral 4700 Lincoln Ave. Oakland, CA 94602

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Solano #217 Third Wednesday Sts. Con. & Helen Church 1224 Alabama Street Vallejo, CA 94590

Marysville #228 Second Thursday 929 11th Street Marysville, CA 95991

Modesto #246 Third Tuesday Annunciation Church 313 Tokay Ave. Modesto, CA 95350

Silicon Valley #251 Second Tuesday St. Nicholas Church 1260 Davis Street San Jose, CA 95126

Contra Costa #259 Second Wednesday St. Demetrios Church

Reno #281 Third Thursday St. Anthony Church 4795 Lakeside Drive Reno, NV 89502

San Mateo #392 Third Thursday Location TBA Check with officers.

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Eos#1

Holy Trinity

Echo #4

Oakland

Ascension

Cathedral

Artemis #5

Sacramento

Third Tuesday

Annunciation

Sparta #18

Second Wed

St. Basil Church

Phaedra #64

Third Tuesday

Annunciation

Church

Stockton

San Jose

Modesto

Church

Fresno

Leto #71

St. George

Elis #89

Third Sunday

Urania #290

241 Park Ave.

Walnut Creek

First Thursday

TBA

Burlingame

San Mateo

St. Anthony

Church

Reno

Church

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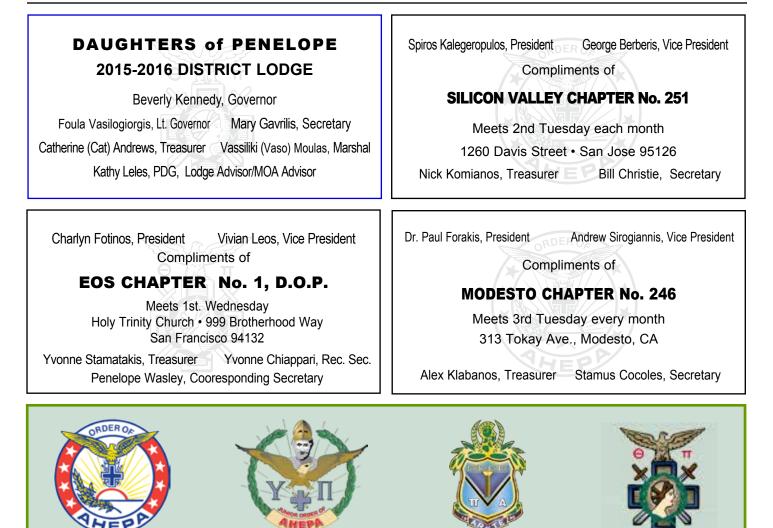
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