

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Thomas Elected Grand President of Daughters of Penelope** *The 44 year member hails from San Bernardino, California*

The delegates of the Supreme Convention of the Daughters of Penelope (DOP) elected Demi Thomas, Grand President for the 2018-2019 administrative year. Elections were held July 27th, at the 96th Annual AHEPA Supreme Convention, Atlantic City, NJ.

#### **Meet Grand President Demi Thomas**



Grand President Thomas, joined the Amphitrite Chapter #175 in San Bernardino, California in District 20, transferred to Cadmus Chapter #165 in Paramus, New Jersey, and is now a member of Agape Chapter #336 in Wyckoff, New Jersey. She has been a member of the AHEPA family for more than 40 years since joining the Maids of Athena at the age of 14. She has served numerous leadership positions with the Daughters of Penelope, including most recently, Grand Vice President. In addition, she has served on the Boards of the District 5 Cancer Foundation and District 5 Educational Foundation; the latter as its chairman. Moreover, Grand President Thomas participated in writing the Holocaust in Greece New Jersey Curriculum.

Thomas and her husband, Sammy, have two daughters, and a granddaughter. They are members of Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, Wyckoff, N.J. There, Thomas has served as director of Religious Education, has chaired the local and district Oratorical Festival, and is a member of the Philoptochos Board.

Thomas teaches Social Studies at Teaneck Community Charter School (TCCS), a middle school in Teaneck, N.J., where she serves as the Department chair. She is a former board member of Friends of TCCS. Thomas also is active civically. She has held leadership positions with the Home and School Association of Somerville Elementary School, having served as its president; and the Federated Home and School Association. Thomas is also a past board member of ABC Cancer.

#### **2018-2019 Daughters of Penelope Grand Lodge**

In addition to Grand President Thomas, the following individuals were elected to the Daughters of Penelope Grand Lodge:

Grand Vice President Celia Kachmarski of Calgary, AB, Canada;

Grand Secretary Kathy Bizoukas of Munster, IN;

Grand Treasurer Georgette Boulegeris of Bedminster, NJ;

Grand Governor Zone I Kathy Matrakas of Silver Spring, MD;

Grand Governor Zone II Stella Sirks of Orlando, FL;  
Grand Governor Zone III Demi Cross of Cheyenne, WY;  
Grand Governor Zone IV Marianthi Treppiedi of Spokane, WA;  
Grand Governor Zone V Margaret Dritsas of Ottawa, Canada;  
and Grand Advisor to the Maids of Athena Charrie Regopoulos of Springsboro, OH.



*Front Row L to R: Grand Vice President Celia Kachmarski, Grand President Demi Thomas, and Grand Treasurer Kathy Bizoukas. Back Row L to R: Grand MOA Advisor Charrie Regopoulos, Grand Governor Zone IV Marianthi Treppiedi, Grand Governor Zone III Demi Cross, Grand Governor Zone II Stella Sirks, and Grand Governor Zone I Kathy Matrakas.*



Congratulations also to AHEPA Supreme President George Lucas of Cleveland, OH, Sons of Pericles Supreme President Gregory Vourloumis of Atlanta, GA, and Maids of Athena Grand President Tatiana Tsaprailis of Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

### **AHEPA Family Supreme Convention 2019**

The 2019 Supreme Convention will convene the week of June 30th at the Palmer Hotel in Chicago, IL.

Founded in San Francisco in 1929, the Daughters of Penelope is the first women's organization of its kind established in the United States. It is an affiliate organization of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA).

The mission of the DOP is to promote the ancient Greek ideals of Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence.

For more information about the DOP, or any of its programs or projects, please visit [www.daughtersofpenelope.org](http://www.daughtersofpenelope.org).