

## Daughters of Penelope E-newsletter Issue 8 | April 1, 2024

Daughters of Penelope Headquarters <dophq+ahepa.org@icontactmail3.com>

Mon 4/1/2024 15:01

To:Elena Saviolakis <elena@ahepa.org>



### GRAND PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Sisters,

Hello April! Spring has sprung! As we witness the miracle of Spring unfolding around us, let us take a moment to pause and reflect on the beauty and resilience of the natural world. We can cultivate seeds of kindness, compassion, and gratitude -- nurturing them with love and care until they bloom into acts of beauty and generosity. That is exactly what you, my Sisters, have done with your generosity. Among those things, you have embraced my initiative to support our seniors by volunteering and fundraising for Meals on Wheels. I would like to compile everything our chapters have done for Meals on Wheels, whether it be how much donated or volunteered, and publish the totals in our yearbook. And don't forget, your many other projects and contributions should be compiled and forwarded as well so we can recognize you for your wonderful work. Please send that information to me at [mtreppiedi@comcast.net](mailto:mtreppiedi@comcast.net) by June 1, 2024.

March was Women's History Month, and it was wonderful to see the Power of Women with our DOP chapters across the globe celebrating with webinars on women's health, speakers on mental health, and International Women's Day with our European Sisters. It was an honor for me to be present via Zoom at the initiation of our new chapter Pallas-Athina in Vienna, Austria on March 1st. Welcome, Sisters, to our Sisterhood.

The Western Leadership Conference was held on March 15-17, in Houston, TX. I attended along with Grand Secretary Antoinette Zachariades, Grand Treasurer Gretchen Holtsinger, Grand Governor Zone 2 Patty Didik, Grand Governor Zone 3 Christie Finch, Grand Governor Zone 4 Linda Belba and Grand Advisor to the Maids of Athena Effie Kirkiles. Thank you to Grand Treasurer Gretchen, District Gover Paulette Pastor, District Lieutenant Governor Cathy Paraschos and the Achaia chapter for coordinating such an extraordinary weekend of Sisterhood for Districts 16-22. We began the weekend with a wonderful dinner Friday night at Sylvia's Enchiladas. Then on Saturday, March 16, the Sisters gathered for a day of learning, sharing and exchanging ideas. The Maids of Athena held their "Maid to Lead" program in conjunction with our leadership conference. One of the highlights was the luncheon at which we presented the "Spirit of Penelope" award to Dr. Joanna Papakonstantinou. This award is presented to a woman who exemplifies dignity, perseverance, and creativity. It is given to a woman who has achieved a level of personal success and continues to move forward professionally. Through her example, she inspires and empowers women. Dr. Joanna exemplifies each of those attributes and more. We ended the day with a wonderful dinner at Athena's Greek Kitchen.

Sisters, it is wonderful to read about all the events and activities you are hosting. Your membership drives continue to bring in new Sisters to our wonderful organization. Keep up the good work.

We are also in the last few months of officers terms and we will be holding elections in our chapters, districts and on the National Level. Please consider taking on a leadership position in one of these areas. We are here to help you.

As we approach Holy Week, the Grand Lodge would like to extend our heartfelt wishes for a Happy Easter to you and your families. Kalo Pascha.

Love always in Theta Pi,

Marianthi Treppiedi  
Grand President

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- All chapter delegate/alternate reporting forms should have now been submitted since the Supreme Convention in 2024 will take place overseas in Larnaca, Cyprus. Chapter National Obligations should be in to Headquarters by today for chapters to be considered in good standing and for delegates to be seated at the their district convention and the supreme convention.
- As part of the Growth and Expansion program, there will NOT be a reinstatement fee of \$15 assessed for delinquent members. This applies for the 2023-2024 DOP year.
- Please see the Supreme Convention section below regarding updated info including a **tentative schedule of events, hotel accommodation, and how to purchase your delegate, alternate, or guest convention package.**

## GRAND PRESIDENT'S TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS



Welcome newly initiated Sisters of Daughters of Penelope Pallas-Athina-Vienna Chapter No. 459 in Vienna, Austria! Grand President Marianthi Treppiedi, Grand Vice President Margaret Dritsas, and Region Governor of Europe Athanasia Vassiliadou welcomed the Sisters via zoom on March 1st.



Welcome newly initiated Sisters of Daughters of Penelope Nikifora Chapter No. 457 in West Nyack, New York in District 6!

On March 3, Grand Governor Marianne Boutsoulis, District Governor 6 Lainie Christou, District Lt. Governor Marina Patelos, District Treasurer Alexandra Davis, District Marshall Effie, and District DOP Advisor Cookie Patelos initiated the 10 ladies into the chapter.

It was a lovely day with great support from the AHEPA Brothers of Meteora Chapter No. 455 of West Nyack who sponsored the refreshments.





Photos from a successful Western Conference on March 16th. Grand President Marianthi Treppiedi, the Daughters of Penelope Grand Lodge, the Maids of Athena Grand Lodge, and Sisters from Districts 16, 17, 20, 21, and 22 traveled to Houston, TX for a productive workshop and to honor Spirit of Penelope Award Honoree Dr. Papakonstantinou!

### **GRAND PRESIDENT'S INVITE REQUEST**

Please extend an invitation to the Grand President once your chapter/district finalizes workshops, meetings, and events. The Grand President would love to attend!

**Submit a calendar of your virtual and in-person chapter and district workshops, events, and meetings for the coming year** to Grand President Marianthi Treppiedi at [mtreppiedi@comcast.net](mailto:mtreppiedi@comcast.net) and Executive Director Elena Saviolakis at [elena@ahepa.org](mailto:elena@ahepa.org).

### **GRAND PRESIDENT'S CURRENT TRAVEL ITINERARY**

April 4-8, 2024: Hellas & Cyprus Chapter Conference in Ioannina, Greece

April 13-14, 2024: Greek Independence Day Parade in NYC

April 16, 2024: Antigone Chapter No. 35 & IHRC Visit in Minneapolis, MN

May 19, 2024: District 10 Scholarship Luncheon in MI

May 20-23, 2024: Capitol Hill Day & Congressional Banquet in DC

May 26, 2024: Grand President Marianthi's Testimonial in Spokane, WA

June 9-12, 2024: WRDC Convention in Reno, NV

July 21-28, 2024: AHEPA Family Supreme Convention in Larnaca, Cyprus

## IMPORTANT INFO & LINKS

### [\*\*Resources & Applications | Forms and More | Donate Today\*\*](#)

## **GROWTH & EXPANSION MESSAGE Sisters Together, Empowered Forever!**

Dear Sisters,

WE ARE FAMILY!!! The month of March was so exciting! We celebrated Greek Heritage Month and International Women's Day. How better to start the month than welcoming new chapters, new sisters, and welcoming back sisters!

Welcome to the new chapters! This month we chartered a new chapter in Vienna, Austria, and West Nyack, New York. We have seen an increase in initiations and reinstatements, a special shout-out to Districts 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 10, 13, 16, and 20! We ended the month with a bang! Our sisterhood keeps growing and welcoming new members, reactivating and chartering new chapters. Welcome Sisters! Stay tuned for more exciting news to come!

Friendly reminders:

#### **Incentives:**

Remember this year, the reinstatement fee (\$15) has been waived!

#### **Welcome emails:**

Please remember to send me an email with the names and email addresses of your **new members** and your **re-instated members**. If they don't have email, please send me their mailing address. I would like to welcome them to our sisterhood. My email address is [Margaret.dritsas@gmail.com](mailto:Margaret.dritsas@gmail.com).

#### **Gift a Membership:**

Offer a DOP membership as a gift to a potential sister. This idea is Sister Tula O'Neal's, DOP District 13 Lieutenant Governor. What a wonderful way to encourage someone to join our sisterhood. Offer a membership, pay it for them.

#### **DOP Leadership, Educational, and Mentorship Program**

Thank you to all sisters who have registered for the program.

We are starting our modules the first week of April and accommodating all sisters who would like to participate in the DOP Academy. This is a great opportunity to learn about our sisterhood, to enhance our knowledge, and to get to meet more sisters.

Please use the following email for any inquiries or to register:  
[daughtersofpenelopeacademy@gmail.com](mailto:daughtersofpenelopeacademy@gmail.com)

Sisters, I am grateful for your dedication, committed work, your support, and your passion for our sisterhood. Thank you for all that you do. We are sisters, we are

family. Empowered together, forever!

Love in Theta Pi,

Margaret Dritsas  
Grand Vice President and G&E Chairman



**SAVE THE DATE FOR HILL DAY & THE CONGRESSIONAL BANQUET!**

**AHEPA Family Congressional Banquet**

**Wednesday, May 22, 2024**

**6:00PM Cocktails**

**7:00PM Dinner**

**(Black-Tie Optional)****AHEPA Family Capitol Hill Day****Thursday, May 23, 2024****Rayburn House Office Building - Room 2045  
Kick-off at 10am**

Walk the Halls of Congress and fulfill your civic responsibility with us at our Capitol Hill Day.

Join us and fellow advocates from across the US to educate members of Congress and their staffs on the public policy priorities of the AHEPA Family and help grow the Congressional Hellenic Caucus.

Please [click here](#) to RSVP your attendance by May 1st.

**2024 PER CAPITA AND NATIONAL OBLIGATIONS**

**Please remit 2024 per capita between now and June 2024. Per capita for all membership years will be assessed at \$40 annually.**

Please [click here](#) to view the national projects passed at the 2023 Supreme Convention in Las Vegas, NV, and [click here](#) to download the National Obligations Projects Form. Please note **National Obligations were due to Headquarters by March 31, 2024. 2024 Dues and Chapter National Obligations must be fulfilled for chapter delegates to be seated at the District and Supreme Convention.**

**2024 AHEPA FAMILY SUPREME CONVENTION - UPDATE**

Our next AHEPA Family Supreme Convention will be at the Radisson Beach Resort in Larnaca, Cyprus, July 21-27, 2024. Please [click here](#) to reserve your room and [click here](#) to view a tentative schedule of events and meetings. Additional information will be e-mailed separately.

[Click here](#) to purchase your Supreme Convention delegate, alternate, or guest package via the registration form or via your membership account at [members.dophq.org](#).

**Please support the 2024 DOP Supreme Convention Yearbook** and join us in celebrating 94 years of excellence and community service by placing a **Member/Chapter/District advertisement in the DOP Yearbook**. This year we are proud to announce the yearbook will be digital in an effort to reduce costs and go green. Ad pricing will also be reduced to \$100. [Click here](#) to download the form and thank you for your support! Deadline is July 1st.

**PENELOPE'S SCROLL - AN ONLINE PUBLICATION**

The first issue of Penelope's Scroll is available online now!

[Click here](#) to download and read/save. Enjoy!

Articles for the next edition of Penelope's Scroll are due by **June 15, 2024**.

**Please submit articles for the next issue to Penelope's Scroll Editor Fotini Caragiannis at penelopesscroll@gmail.com.**

All submissions must be made directly to the above Penelope Scroll email address by the deadline date. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Please identify yourself and your Chapter Number and District/District Number/Lodge Officer Status in the message line of your email. Also, include the article revision number in the message line in your email.

Please review your submissions carefully before sending. However, if you have a correction, it must be sent as an entirely new submission. In other words, please correct your original article and resend as a revision. The most recent submission will be used for the Scroll.

Officers, please encourage Chapters to participate in the Scroll by sending deadline reminders and subscription forms out with your newsletters and mentioning it in your visitations! Sharing activities and events is the BEST way to get out the name of the Daughters of Penelope and to share ideas with other Sisters.

In order to get the Scroll posted in a timely manner, all Penelope Scroll deadlines will be "hard deadlines". All submissions must be made directly to the Penelope Scroll email address by the deadline date. NO EXCEPTIONS!

**Article Submission Parameters:**

All submissions should be sent in a Word document.

There is a 200 word maximum for article submissions. Please use Arial 12 Font.

There is a 2-3 picture limit per article submission. Please include captions with your pictures and post captions just below picture. Also, please note that duplicate pictures will not be published.

**Daughters of Penelope Mourns the Passing  
of Past Grand Governor Mary Chicos**



The Daughters of Penelope is saddened to learn of the passing of Sister Mary Chicos of San Francisco, CA.

Sister Mary was Past Grand Governor of the Daughters of Penelope and a 60 plus year member of Daughters of Penelope EOS Chapter No. 001 in San Francisco, CA.

Sister Mary also fulfilled the roles of Chapter President and District Governor. When she was appointed National Chair, she raised the funds to bring something very special to the **de Young Museum** in San Francisco, CA: the neoclassical masterpiece by **Franklin Simmons**, the life-size **Penelope**, made of Carrara Marble, built in 1896. Sister Mary had said, “Penelope is on permanent collection at the **Museum**. It is truly the pride of the organization!”

[\*\*Click here\*\*](#) to listen to a video clip of PGG Mary speaking about the Penelope statue.

Furthermore, Sister Mary was awarded **Penelope of the Year** in 2002, a true honor for all of her dedication.

May her memory be eternal.

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