

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Spanos Elected Daughters of Penelope Grand President

53-year member hails from Sacramento, California



WASHINGTON (August 5, 2016)—The delegates of the Supreme Convention of the Daughters of Penelope (DOP), a preeminent international women’s organization, elected Jan Spanos, Sacramento, Calif., Grand President for the 2016-17 administrative year. Elections were held July 27, 2016 at the 94th Annual AHEPA Family Supreme Convention, Las Vegas, Nev.

“It is an honor and a privilege to be elected Grand President,” Spanos, who is a member of Artemis Chapter 5, Sacramento, said. “I look forward to working with an enthusiastic Grand Lodge and a vibrant membership to take our successful programs in education, philanthropy, and social services to new heights to the benefit of the community.”

Spanos, a 53-year DOP member, has served all major positions within the organization at the national, district, and chapter levels.

“The Daughters of Penelope provides invaluable opportunities for women to make significant contributions to their country and to their communities,” Spanos said. “I am grateful for the opportunities the organization have provided me, and my aim is to ensure those opportunities are afforded to future generations of women for years to come.”

The newly-elected grand president is a graduate of Northwestern University and has a lifetime vocational teaching degree awarded by the University of California Berkeley. Spanos also has prepared and administered classes for continuing education units in vocation education. In addition, Jan co-authored with the Labor Occupational Health Program at the University of California Berkeley (UCB) to create the a manual titled, "Health and Safety in the Workplace.

Professionally, Grand President Spanos is a government employee in Sacramento. Formerly, she was employed by an international products company headquartered in Brussels, Belgium where Spanos traveled extensively to several countries, states and cities as an educator and platform presenter.

2016-2017 Daughters of Penelope Grand Lodge

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

- Grand Vice President Eva Jean Fomalont of Albuquerque, N.M.;

- Grand Secretary Diane Petersen of Sacramento, Calif.;
- Grand Treasurer Aspa Kostopoulos of Ontario, Canada;
- Grand Governor Zone I Lili Respass of Worcester, Mass.;
- Grand Governor Zone II Dorothea Williams of Saint Claire Shores, Mich.;
- Grand Governor Zone III Kathy Papadimitropoulos of Aurora, Colo.;
- Grand Governor Zone IV Katherine Karafotias of Portland, Ore.;
- Grand Governor Zone V Celia Kachmarski of Calgary, Canada;
- and Grand Advisor to the Maids of Athena Kathy Zotos of Munster, Ind.

“Our Grand Lodge has a tremendous amount of experience with our officers having served in all capacities within the organization,” Spanos said. “We all look forward to traveling the country and visiting communities in the ongoing effort to fulfill our mission.”

Spanos’ theme for the administrative year is “GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY” and “KEEP ALEXANDRA'S DREAM ALIVE.”

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.

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