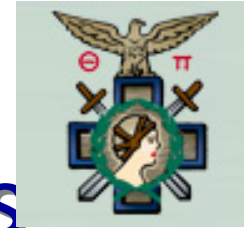




AHEPA

Yankee District News



Publication of District #7 (Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Western Massachusetts)

Volume Number LIV No. 2 Fall 2014

Congratulations to our newly elected Officers:



2014-2015



Philip T. Frangos
Supreme President

Anna-Helene Grossomanides
Daughters Of Penelope
Grand President

Alex Boutsoulis
AHEPA District Governor
Myrsini Papoutsis
Daughters of Penelope
District Governor

**AHEPA District #7 Lodge
Officers 2014-2015**

**District Governor
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*Demetrius Tasoulas***

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**District Secretary
*Gregory Simones***

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**District Treasurer
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**District Advisor
*Jack Isaac***

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*George Rados, PDG***

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**Sons Of Pericles Advisor
*Rick Pecka***

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Message from the Order of AHEPA District # 7 Governor Alex Boutsoulis:



I would like to express my sincerest appreciation to the AHEPAN Brothers for electing me as District 7 Governor at the May 3rd Convention in Newport, RI. I pledge to do my best to achieve our missions of promoting Hellenism, Education, and Philanthropic endeavors.

There are so many people that I have to thank. I would like to begin with the Newport AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope chapters for a wonderful Friday night out, great deliberations on Saturday and of course a fun dinner-dance on Saturday. As in past years, Brother George Anagnostos, planned and organized a terrific district convention.

We have been very fortunate to have effective leadership under PDG Jack Isaac, Supreme Governor Nick Nikas and of course, past Supreme President John Grossomanides. As a district we are extremely fortunate to have Brothers such as these dedicated and enthusiastic in our AHEPA family. I believe I can use their mentorship for any challenging issue during the upcoming year.

There are so many other Brothers whom I have the utmost respect for their professionalism and to their history of community involvement. I would like to specifically thank the following fellow 2013-14 Lodge members, PDG Brother Jack Isaac, Past District Secretary Brother Andy Aros and District Treasurer Brother John Melonopoulos as being awesome role models in their performance of District 7 lodge duties. I promise I will continue the lessons learned from these gentlemen.

I believe in order to have any District or Chapter function to be successful the relationship of the Daughters of Penelope and AHEPANs must be strong and cohesive. I will work with the Daughters lodge to make every event or meeting as successful as possible.

My goals for Yankee District 7 are as follows:

- Increase AHEPA, Daughters of Penelope, Sons of Pericles and Maids of Athena membership in District 7.
- Increase awareness of AHEPA family activities in our local communities by better publicizing our civic activities.
- Increase Chapter participation in District 7 activities
- Improve overall communication to all in the AHEPA family.

Here is the schedule of some 2014-2015 District 7 activities. Well publicized detailed communication will be a key in successfully promoting these District events. I promise event flyers well in advance to chapter officers:

- Sixth Annual Hellenic History Tournament will be held on Saturday, November 22 at St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in Orange, CT.

In closing, I look forward to visiting each chapter this year. I will be contacting chapter Presidents to set up visitation dates.

Hope to see you soon!

Fraternally,
Alex Boutsoulis
District Governor

Message from the Daughters of Penelope District Governor Myrsini Papoutsis:



Dear Sisters,

Thank you for placing your trust in me and electing me as your District Governor for the upcoming year. Our district has made significant strides over the past few years. Thank you to 2012-2014 Governor, Penny Pecka and her Lodge for the initiatives taken to strengthen and energize our District. Over the upcoming year, our Lodge will continue to strengthen its service and commitment to our chapters and to headquarters. As District Governor it is my intent to work with members, chapters and the District Lodge to achieve the goals of the Order of the Daughters of Penelope. As District Governor I have identified the following goals during my tenure:

1. To continue to strengthen chapters by increasing membership through recruitment and retention.
2. Counsel chapters in managing and resolving any issues the members may have which will enable them to better understand the Daughters of Penelope organization.
3. Determine viable locations for new chapters and encourage the organization of new chapters in these areas. Continue to encourage chapters to focus on the mission and vision of the Daughters of Penelope organization through related service and advocacy projects.

Congratulations:

- To the newly elected District Lodge Members. The Lodge and I will be communicating with the chapters and will be visiting each chapter to become better acquainted with members and speak on topics important to the chapters. Please let me know your visitation dates as soon as possible because dates are being filled quickly.
- To the newly reactivated Maids of Athena Chapter in Waterbury CT with the help of the Maids of Athena Grand Secretary Tria Charnas. There were 8 newly initiated members from Waterbury and 2 members from Bridgeport. Bridgeport also started their own Maids of Athena Chapter.
- To the Norwich Chapter who has increased their membership to 17 members since their reactivation this past February.
- To Past Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles John Ververis for a fantastic year and all his accomplishments! His testimonial took place this past August in Waterbury CT where many national guests were in attendance.
- Congratulations to Anna-Helene Grossomanides who was elected Grand President of the Daughters of Penelope at the Supreme Convention this past July in New Orleans!
- We welcome Grand President Anna-Helene to District 7!
- Congratulations to our Liaison Jan Spanos, Grand Secretary!
- Congratulations to the extremely talented athlete Elena Saviolakis, Executive Director of the DOP who was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame.
- Congratulations to District 7 who won several 2nd place awards:
 - In appreciation for our dedicated commitment to Daughters of Penelope and Maids of Athena
 - For the Highest % Per Capita Paid for 2013-2014
 - Chapter Reactivation-Lysandros 181 Norwich CT
 - Chapter 368 Danielson CT for Participation in Growth & Expansion Contest
 - To all the District Scholarship Recipients who received scholarships at the District Scholarship Luncheon which was held this past August in Waterbury CT. A total of \$21,000 was awarded. Keynote Speaker Supreme Counsel Greg Stamos spoke about the **3P's** (Philotimo, Philanthropy and Paideia).

90th Anniversary of District 7 Dinner Dance honoring all Past District Governors of AHEPA and DOP will take place on October 24, 2015 in Waterbury CT. We encourage all chapters to attend and support past leaders of AHEPA and DOP.

An excellent leader is able to paint a vision for a journey and have a strategy to get there. Leadership is a two-way street and it's the people you work with who will make the decision every day whether or not to follow you.

On page 4, are the upcoming events which we look forward to seeing you attend. I look forward to working with members, chapters, District Leaders and headquarters leadership to execute the mission and vision of the organization.

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Yours in Theta Pi , Myrsini Papoutsis Governor, District 7

Daughters of Penelope District Lodge Officers 2014-2015

District Governor Myrsini Papoutsis

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papm16@yahoo.com

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District Treasurer Donna Rados

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District Marshall Helen Sakellarides

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Maids Advisor Gina Kotsaftis

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District Liaison: Jan Spanos

Grand Secretary &
District 7 Liaison
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ph: 916-837-4563
janspanos@aol.com
Liaison to District 7, 11, 17

Son's of Pericles #61



Back row: (L-R) Art Ververis, George Karolidis, Angelo Karolidis, Vas Sfinarolakis. Front Row: (L-R) George Tinios, Mike Karich, SOP Supreme Governor Steve Gagag, DOP District Governor Penny Pecka, AHEPA District Warden Rick Pecka, SOP Supreme President John Ververis, David Gagag, SOP Chapter President Nico Ververis, and Jamey Velezis. The Waterbury Sons of Pericles held their 7th Annual Hall of Fame Banquet honoring DOP District Governor Mrs. Penny Pecka on Saturday, March 22nd at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Waterbury, CT. The event was extremely well-attended by members of the Holy Trinity community, as well as Mrs. Pecka's family, friends, co-workers, and colleagues. Mrs. Pecka was honored by several speakers, including Father Stephen Natsis, DOP Deucalion 199 Vice President Sofia Ricciardi-Swaby, Parish Council President Brian Peterson, DOP Past District Governor Donna Rados, AHEPA District Governor Jack Isaac, DOP Grand Vice-President Anna-Helene Grossomanides, her co-worker and friend Carol Kozatiek, her niece Eleni



Koutroumanis, and her son Rick Pecka. The Sons of Pericles would like to sincerely thank everyone who attended, contributed to, and sponsored this event; their roles were critical in making it a complete success. Above is Penny with Supreme Governor, Steve Gagag, to the left is Penny with her niece Eleni.

Waterbury AHEPA #46



The Waterbury AHEPA chapter 48, and the Daughters of Penelope Chapter 199, honored 24 students at their annual Scholarship Luncheon on Sunday, June 8th at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. Fifteen endowed scholarships are awarded annually.

The scholarship recipients & honored

guests attending were, bottom row (left to right:) Cassandra Tracey, Nika Nikas, Adrianna Mihalek, His Grace Bishop Sevastianos, Fr. Perikles Kallis – Pastor for Holy Trinity church in Waterbury, Martha Gakidis, Katherine Lainas, Stephanie Sorosiak-Second row (left to right); Dean Tzepos, Niko Kotsaftis, Robert Tzepos, Jonathon Gallo, Constantine Gakidis, Steven Gagag, Spencer Mourges, Andrew Kotsaftis, and Fr. Stephen Natsis Not in attendance: Cassandra Boutsoulis, Christina Tsitso, Jamey Velezis, Elizabeth Karamavros, Lauren Karamavros, Alexandra Gagag, Angelica Mourges, Stephanie Dibble, Katherine Tzepos, Kristina Dibble.



Important Dates to Remember:



- **November 22, 2014 - Hellenic History Tournament at St Barbara Greek Orthodox Church Orange, CT**
- **March 14, 2015 - Spring Conference at New Britain, CT**
- **April 26, 2015 - Night at the Races at Waterbury, CT**
- **May 29-31, 2015 - New England Regional Conference at Newport, R.I.**
- **October 24, 2015 - Honoring Past District Governor's Dinner Dance at Waterbury, CT**

YANKEE NEWS RECEIVES GRANT BY JOHN MELONOPOULOS, YN CFO/DISTRICT 7 Treasurer

The Norwich AHEPA 110 Foundation, Inc., awarded the Yankee News a grant of \$400 dollars to assist its efforts to operate the YN without deficits. Foundation President William Trantalis had asked how they could help since all Norwich AHEPANS and other members of the District receive the newspaper. The Yankee News received the check at the Norwich Annual Awards Night held on June 24, 2014. With this type of support, it will help reduce any future deficits.

On behalf District 7 Lodge members and the staff of the Yankee News we applaud the Norwich AHEPA 110 Foundation, Inc., for its support.

Rose of New England Chapter #110

The Rose Of New England Chapter 110 held another successful Awards Banquet. The event, which was first held in 1968, has continued on as a tradition all these 45 plus years. Seventy-five Ahepans and their guests witnessed the installation of our new chapter officers for the coming year. Installed were President - Peter Argiros, Architect, Vice-President - Democles Angelopoulos, Treasurer - Dr. John Grossomanides and Secretary - Anthony Neigel. We also installed the Board of Governors - Enest Pool, Chairman, George Grossomanides, Tom Charis, Professor Peter Patsouris, Paul Constantinou and George Maistrelis. Awards were presented, as follows: Ahepan of the Year Award to - Democles Angelopoulos and AHEPA Community Service Award to - Irene Marsiotis. In addition, our chapter presented cash awards, from the profits of the AHEPA Housing Corporation as follows:

- Tenants Associations - \$100 each
- Paideia Of UCONN - \$300
- Reliance House Shelter - \$300
- AHEPA District 7 Newsletter - \$400
- American Warrior Day of Honor - \$500
- ARC Childrens Program - \$500
- Otis Library - \$500
- Backus Hospital Outreach Program \$1,000
- Bethsaida/Kaie Blair House - \$1,000
- NFA Greek Studies Program - \$1,000
- Three Rivers Community College - \$1,000



District Convention Newport Rhode Island May 5, 2014



Greek Independence Day Parade, New York



New Brother:

**Our Newest Brother,
New initiate
Paul Constantinou**



Congratulations to Nick Kotsaftis for being awarded the 2014 National AHEPA Education Foundation Scholarship. Niko, a member of the Sons of Pericles, Solon Chapter 61 in Waterbury, CT, is the son of Dean and Gina Kotsaftis who are members of the AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope chapters in Waterbury. Gina is the Maids of Athena Advisor. He is also the proud recipient of the 2014 Pan Gregorian of Connecticut scholarship, which recognized his academic and community service achievements, as well as the Rev. James Diavates Waterbury AHEPA Scholarship. Niko is a graduate of Pomperaug High School in Southbury, CT and is attending Pennsylvania State University majoring in Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering.

Want to share your chapter's pictures & upcoming events in the next Yankee News?! Just email Krystyna Kazakos at Kazakos88@gmail.com and she will share your pictures and articles!

News Release : A message from AHEPA Headquarters Tuesday, July 29, 2014

Phillip T. Frangos Elected Supreme President Michigan Native Runs Uncontested



NEW ORLEANS, LA - The delegates of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), a leading association for the nation's millions of American citizens of Greek heritage and hellenes, elected Phillip T. Frangos, East Lansing, Mich., as their supreme president at the 92nd Annual Supreme Convention, New Orleans, La. Frangos ran unopposed in elections that were held Friday, July 25, 2014. Formal installation ceremonies were held Saturday, July 26, 2014. "It is an honor and privilege to be elected AHEPA supreme president," Supreme President Frangos said. "It is with



humility that I undertake the responsibilities of this office. I thank those who have mentored me, supported me, inspired me, and tutored me over the many years that I have been a member of an organization which carries the torch of Hellenism.

He added, "The community continues to

face a multitude of challenges that are important to address as the need for community service is relentless, both in the United States and abroad, and the promotion of Hellenic ideals will always be a priority for AHEPA. I am excited to work with our seasoned Supreme Lodge and our membership to address these challenges and keep AHEPA on the steady path set forth by my predecessors in a spirit true to our mission." Frangos is a member of Wolverine Chapter 142, Lansing, Mich. He has served AHEPA in numerous leadership positions including most recently supreme vice president and all offices at the district and chapter levels. He also served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees in the mid-1980s. As supreme president, Frangos's responsibilities include being the chief executive officer, and principal spokesperson, of the entire AHEPA domain, which includes the United States, Canada, and chapters in Europe.

Election of AHEPA Leadership for 2014-2015

The AHEPA Supreme Lodge is the international governing body of the organization.

The 2014-15 Supreme Lodge is comprised of: Canadian President Kenneth N. Matziorinis, Supreme Vice President John Galanis, Supreme Secretary Andrew Zachariades, Supreme Treasurer Tom Gober, Supreme Counselor Gregory Stamos, Supreme Athletic Director Louis G. Atsaves, and Sons of Pericles National Advisor James Kokotas.

The eight Supreme Governors are: Region I: Demetrios C. Kirkiles, Region II: Robert Stepp, Region III: Philip Vogis, Re-



gion IV: Frank P. Fotis, Region V: Costas Boutsikakis, Region VI: Nick Kavadas, Region VII: Timothy Joannides, and Region VIII: Robert Sexton.

Elected to positions on the Board of Trustees were: Nicholas Karacostas and Vassos Chrysanthou. Karacostas, who is a past supreme president, was re-elected to his second term on the board.

AHEPA Family Elections

The organizations that comprise the AHEPA Family also held elections. Anna-Helene Grossomanides was elected Daughters of Penelope Grand President; Jimmy Googas, was elected Sons of Pericles Supreme President; and Deanna Socaris was elected Maids of Athena Grand President.

Saturday's Installation Ceremony of newly-elected officers officially concluded the 92nd AHEPA Supreme Convention, which began Monday, July 21.

The 2015 Supreme Convention will convene in San Francisco, Calif.

AHEPA founded in 1922 in Atlanta, Georgia, to protect individuals from the evils of bigotry and discrimination, AHEPA is the largest and oldest grassroots association of American citizens of Greek heritage and Philhellenes with more than 400 chapters across the United States, Canada, and Europe. 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.

For more information about AHEPA or how to join, please visit ahepa.org or contact AHEPA Headquarters, 202-232-6300.

Chapter #110 Norwich Festivities



- Charles Kostelos of Chapter #110 Norwich, CT, getting Metropolis of Boston laity award. Picture on right is Charles with his family, Father Paul Pantelis and metropolitan Methodios.
- Letter written from George Grossomanides to Peter Patsouris, of Norwich 110, regarding his promotion to a Full Professor at **TRCC** (Three Rivers Community College):

Dear Brother Peter, I was recently informed by your Father of your very important news. All of your Brothers of the Rose of New England Chapter 110 Order of AHEPA are very proud of your achievement. We all know you have put in a lot of hard work and you are very well respected at the college. The Education in AHEPA is your forte. We wish you well and many more successful years in your noble profession of educating our young people to become fruitful members of our society.

Sincerely, your proud Brother, George Grossomanides

- AHEPA Chapter #110 sent the fundraising check to AHEPA Headquarters for Apostoli Greek Relief program
- AHEPA Group photo of all chapter members who attended church at Holy Trinity to Celebrate National AHEPA Day 2 (bottom left)
- PSP John Grossomanides pins Brother John Mihalopoulos with a 35 year pin at the Norwich AHEPA Day Celebration (bottom right)



- A cake from AHEPA day in Norwich, CT
- President Obama acknowledging AHEPA day



Brother front row: Peter Pappas, Tony Petros-PDG, John G. Grossomanides-PSG, John Mihalopoulos, John Grossomanides-PSP, Back row: Michael Lewis, Peter Patsouris, Steve Patsouris, George Maistrelis, Paul Constantinou, Tom Charis, Peter Argiros, Sean Ryan, George Grossomanides

Chapter #110 Norwich Installs New officers!



Pictured above on left is Nick Nikas swearing in new President of the Norwich chapter Peter Argiros! Left to Right: Incoming President Peter Argiros, Architect from Colchester, outgoing president Ernest Pool of Norwich and Installing officer Nicholas Nikes of Stamford. Picture was taken during the Rose of New England AHEPA Chapter 110, Annual Awards Banquet.

Seventy Five members and guests of the Norwich AHEPA Chapter 110 witnessed the installation of officers for the coming year, as follows: Peter Argiros, President, Democles Angelopoulos, Vice-President, Anthony Neigel, Secretary and Dr. John Grossomanides, Treasurer.

The AHEPA Chapter presented cash awards to representatives of the following non-profit organizations: NFA Greek Studies - \$1,000, Three Rivers Community College - \$1,000, Backus Hospital Outreach Program - \$1,000, Bethesda/Kaie Blair House - \$1,000, Otis Library \$500, ARC - \$500, American Warrior Day of Honor - \$500, Yankee District Newsletter - \$400, Paideia Of UCONN - \$300, Reliance House Shelter - \$300 and AHEPA Tenants Associations \$100 each.

Two annual awards were also presented to individuals who have contributed to the well-being of AHEPA and the Greek-American Community. The Ahepan Of The Year Award was presented to Democles Angelopoulos and the AHEPA Community Service Award was presented to Irene Marasiotis.



Elpis Chapter #117 Annual Picnic on July 13th, at Churchill Park, Newington, CT



Daughters of Penelope Hermes Chapter #41

An update from Kathy Yiannoulis, Bridgeport's President:

Chapter 41 began a busy 2014 with a dinner meeting with representatives from our district and with our annual dinner with our brother Ahepans. Our chapter continued in 2014 with our Acts of Kindness program focusing on both church and local causes. The Acts of Kindness made a small gift of comforters to St. Basil's Academy. Our chapter donated towards the Sunday school communion breakfast on the Saturday of Lazarus. At the spring district convention we contributed items to be given to Penelope's Place. We conducted drives for Soldier Support Packages and collected pet food for an animal shelter. At Easter, we prepared potted plants for individuals in nursing homes. We became involved with the Bridgeport Council of Churches Transitional Housing program. We have made two

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and furnishings for three apartments. Our chapter is looking to continue this effort and we have been given a gift from the District to use towards this very worthy cause! Our chapter is so proud and humbled to be honored in this way! We have been asked to expand our participation with the Council of Churches as part of a joint effort with our church community. Our annual luncheon, called Penelope's Café, was a wonderful and fun event where we had a book signing. Many frappes were also made! Our annual Spring Raffle and Mother's Day Flower, Bake and Gift Sale were also a success. Our chapter was visited by Anna-Helene Grossomanides in March and was a great meeting. Our sisters also had a wonderful evening at Night at the Races! As we finish the year, we will be running the Greek Deli at our church festival and giving out scholarships in June. Looking forward to our annual luncheon and giving our ser-

"A NITE AT THE RACES" Written by Donna E. Rados, PDG

Nite at the Races was sponsored by both District 7 Lodges AHEPA and DOP was held on April 26, 2014 at the Holy Trinity Church Banquet Hall in Waterbury CT.

I presented the idea at the 2012 conference which was enthusiastically well received by then Governors Penny Pecka and Jack Isaac. After a series of delays, the idea seemed to warrant a meeting between the two lodges. After the initial meeting, the idea of this type of event took on a life of its own. Details were worked out tirelessly by Donna Rados, PDG, Penny Pecka, DOP Governor, Jack Isaac, PDG, District Governor, Myrsini Papoutsis, Dick Pecka, Paul Velezis and George Rados, PDG. Prior to the event, many purchased horses for the event. Many responded and had the ability to not only name their horse and the jockey as well as a description of their horses, "special qualities" which appeared in the race program. This proved to be one of the most fun activities up until betting time came. As the night progressed the shouts of enthusiastic attendees cheering their horse, or the one they had bet on, became louder and louder. What a fun night it was! Establishments and individuals donated prizes of all sorts and value so many went home with a prize of some sort. Some of the ladies wore their "Derby Hats" as advertised and competed in a contest. Valerie Marincci won for most beautiful and Connie Gorzelany won for most unusual. Many thanks to all who worked so hard to make this event the great success it was. A special thank you to our Master of Ceremonies, Harry Sitalides, our Video Director, Ryan Donlon, Sons of Pericles, led by John Veveris, Supreme President and as al-

ways, Paul Velezis for the delicious buffet. It truly "takes a village" to be successful.

Hat Prize Winners



Meriden Group



New Britain Group



Bartenders



Providence Sophocles Chapter # 106

Sophocles chapter sponsored a family luncheon for the Annunciation Sunday School on AHEPA Sunday. Brothers cooked and served the luncheon to the Sunday School and their families after Liturgy on May 18, 2014 (AHEPA Sunday). There were over 125 people served and all had a great time. The event was headed up by Brother Lakis Andriots (president), John Vanikiotis (treasurer) and Brother James Harritos.

At the Greek School graduation, Sophocles Chapter 106 awarded two AHEPA Achievement awards to graduating student. Both students received the AHEPA Medal of Scholastic Excellence and a \$50.00 check. Brother John Vanikiotis, Chapter Treasurer, is pictured giving the awards to Nicholas Lambros (left) and James Petrou (right). Nicholas is the son of Brother Nicholas Lambros, and James is the grandson of Brother Paul Petrou.

Dr. John Grossomanides
 Past Supreme President
 AHEPA &
 Anna Helene
 Grossomanides
 Grand President
 Daughters of Penelope

Initiation of our New District Governors Alex Boutsioulis & Myrsini Papoutsis



- Top Left** - AHEPA and DOP District Govs with members of the Waterbury Sons of Pericles: L-R - AHEPA District Governor Alex Boutsioulis, David Gagas, DOP District Governor Myrsini Papoutsis, Sons Supreme President John Ververis, AHEPA District 7 Sons of Pericles Advisor Rick Pecka, Niko Kotsaftis, Sons Supreme Governor Andreas Christou, George Tinios
- Top Right** - AHEPA District Governor Alex Boutsioulis and DOP District Governor Myrsini Papoutsis
- Middle Left** - Brother Boutsioulis gives his first remarks as District Governor
- Middle Right** - Alex Boutsioulis with wife Marianne and daughter Emi
- Bottom Left** - L-R - Past Supreme President Dr. John Grossomanides, Supreme Treasurer Andy Zachariades, District Governor Alex Boutsioulis, Supreme Governor Nicholas Nikas
- Bottom Right** - District Governor Alex Boutsioulis being presented his



jewels by Past
 Supreme President
 Dr. John
 Grosse-
 manides



New Haven Chapter #98

Yankee District #7 and New Haven Chapter #98 recently sponsored a scholarly Symposium at Yale University entitled "The Christian Population in the Middle East since the Arab Spring". The genesis of this was a desire by District #7 Governor Jack Isaac to extend his District mission of "giving back to the community" to include educating the general community of all of the difficulties many of our Christian brethren face throughout the world. District Governor Isaac and Chapter #98 members, National Supreme Counselor Gregory J. Stamos, and George Symiris, head of the Yale Hellenic Studies Program at Yale University, organized an esteemed panel of political scientists and historians, experts on the Middle East, who spoke on how the Arab uprising since 2011 has affected, politically and religiously, the dwindling Christian populations throughout the Middle East. In particular, emphasis was on the turmoil in both Egypt and Syria, and the dramatic changes occurring in Turkey as it relates to the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Christian populations. The event was expertly moderated by Professor Symiris, and included Professors Steven Davis and Ellen Lust of Yale University, and Christine M. Philliou of Columbia University, a Greek-American who is an expert on the Ottoman Empire and modern day Turkey. The informative presentation, attended by nearly 100 guests, was followed by a lively and provocative question and answer period, and thereafter by a buffet meal at Luce Hall on historic Hillhouse Avenue in the heart of the Yale Campus. Chapter #98 and Yankee District #7 collaborated with the Hellenic Bar Association of Connecticut, Inc., of which Supreme Counselor Stamos is President, and with the Order of St. Andrew, Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in America. The Archons were represented by Regional Commander Nik Mathews, an AHEPA member of the Stamford Chapter. The widely publicized event was also attended by District #5 Governor Sammy Thomas, District #8 Governor Frank P. Fotis, Region 4 Supreme Governor, Nicholas A. Nikas, Chapter #98 President, Eugene Esares, and the entire District #7 Lodge, as well as many other Ahepans

from throughout Connecticut.

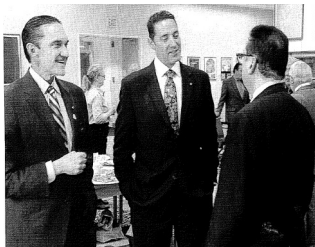


Photo #1 - AHEPANS
Greg Stamos, Nik
Mathews & Steven
Polyzonis



Photo #2 - L to R -

AHEPAN Nik Mathews - Stamford Chapter, AHEPAN Professor George Symiris - Chapter #98, Columbia University Professor Christine Phillou, one of the presenters and AHEPAN Gregory J. Stamos - Chapter #98 and AHEPA Supreme Counselor



Photo #3 - George Symiris, Professor Christine
11 Philliou and Gregory J. Stamos

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BRINCKERHOFF
& BARRETT, PC**
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06901

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& Johnson, S.C.
Attorneys at Law
839 N. Jefferson Street
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Milwaukee, WI 53202

Re-Instatement:

The following pictures are from the New Haven Ahepa chapter #98. Pictured below is Sperie Perakos being re-instated.



From the Brothers of
Sophocles Chapter #106
and
the Thursday Night crew at
Crusty's Pizza
Brother **Lakis Andriotis**

Want your ad here?!
Email or call John
Melonopoulos and he
will be glad to help!
860-434-0306
John.melonopoulos@
comcast.com

C. Dean & Effie
Christelis
315 Meshanticut
Valley Parkway
Crantson, RI 02920
Sophocles
Chapter #106



Mr. & Mrs. Angelos
Maintanis
15 Horizon Drive
Cranston, RI 02921

STAMFORD AHEPA
The members of the Stamford
chapter (#99) congratulate
the Yankee News team for
winning 2nd place in the na-
tional district publications
competition at the convention
in Orlando.
Thank you Krystyna Kazakos
and Jack Isaac for your talent,
dedication and hard work that
brought honor to our district!

*Compliments of
Waterbury Chap-
ter # 48 District
Mother Lodge
Waterbury, CT*



Best Wishes From
AHEPA
Danbury, Chapter 90

Sponsoring: Over \$100,000 in College
Scholarships Awarded
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Officers: Bill Giannakakos-President
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AHEPA District #7 Yankee News

Editor-in Chief : Krystyna Kazakos

Contributing Editors–

Alex Boutsoulis, Jack Isaac

Please visit us on our website: www.ahepad7.org

Email news to: yankeeneews@ahepad7.org

and If you would like it published in the next newsletter email it to

Krystyna Kazakos: Kazakos88@gmail.com

Next Yankee News Deadline is:

December 15th, 2014

In Loving Memory

Brother Christos Stefanopolis, life member Newport Chapter **AHEPA** has passed away, he is the Father of Arthur Stefanopolis , father in law of Brother John Johnson and Brother Dr. Cosmo Haribardies.

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"Salute" to a Veteran Alex Vlantes



Alexander Nicholas Vlantes began his long history with the AHEPA when he joined the Sons of Pericles in 1933. He was also a member of the Chapter Degree Drill Team which performed throughout the District. His father, Nicholas N. Vlantes, our dear departed Brother, was an original member of the Chapter 62 and was co-founder of the Bridgeport Church in 1913.

On September 15, 1938 at the age of 22, Alex was inducted into the AHEPA Chapter 62 and given a Certificate of Honor by the Supreme President, V. Chibithes from National Headquarters in D.C.

Alex served as District 7 Secretary from 1939 to 1945. In May 1945, he was drafted to serve in the European Theatre of Operations in World War II in the First Army. He was stationed in Aschaffenburg, Ger-

many as the Chief Clerk in the Railroad Transportation Corps. His was responsible for coordinating rail traffic throughout southern Germany which included movement of troops and supplies for the reconstruction of Europe, as well as refugee transport for their repatriation. Only in his late twenties, his letters to the family in the States were achingly homesick, especially for his newborn daughter whom he had never seen.

During his lifetime of service to AHEPA, Alex received numerous awards from the Brotherhood: a Life Membership Award from Supreme President John Plumides in August 1987, a "50 Years of Service Award" at the District & Convention in August 1989, and in 1998, he received a "60 Year Member" pin, the only Ahepan so honored in New England. Alex was a delegate to nine National Conventions, from Maine to California and maintained close relationships with scores of Brothers.

Alex served as Secretary for Chapter 62 from 1971 until his death in May 2013. During that time, he served as Finance Examiner of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Bridgeport, CT for 50 continuous years!

Aleco, as he was affectionately called, was a credit to his Hellenic heritage as a son of Greek immigrants, a true patriot who left his wife and two daughters to serve his country, a devout and faithful man who worked tirelessly for his Church and community, and a dedicated, life-long member of the Brotherhood which he revered.

To honor his memory, the Brothers of Chapter 62 have begun an "Alex Vlantes Award" to the Brother who most promotes the mission of Ahepa. This year's recipient was Jim Yeotsas, a favored Brother of Alex.

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Hartford AHEPA #58 Events

The AHEPA - Nathan Hale Chapter #58 and DOP Thoas Chapter #198 hosted their combined Awards Night 2014 on June 7th at the Lodge Room of the AHEPA 58 Senior Complex in Wethersfield. 95 members and guests attended were treated to refreshments of "Orderves and Wine" and dinner prior to the event starting. Father George Zugravu, Dean of the St. George Cathedral offered the benediction and welcome wishes to start the program. Brother Jerry Pangakis acting as Toastmaster introduced many Past District Governors and Past Supreme Officers and other guests including: DOP Grand Vice President Anna-Helene



Grossomanides; Myrsini Pappoutsis, DG; Adele Antoniou, Pres; Nick Nikas, Sup. Governor; Greg Stamos, Sup. Counselor; Alex Boutsoulis, DG; John Melonopoulos, Pres. #58; Presi-

dent Adele Antoniou assisted Grand Vice President Anna-Helene Grossomanides presented service awards: 65 years- Demetra Avdoulos; Adele Antoniou 50 years; Elaine Melonopoulos 35 years; Elisa Marrota and Cathy Walsh 10 years. The DOP also presented the Helene of the Year to Chrysanthy Psaras for her outstanding work for the St. George Community... President John Melonopoulos assisted by PSP John Grossomanides to present service awards: 50 year - Jim Pitchell; 45 years- James Vavaroutsos; 35 years: George Bouzakis, Eleftherios Efstratiou, George Nakos and Manny Vardal; 25 years: Drew Andrews, Jerry Copsinis and Mike Zerbin. President John Melonopoulos and PSP John Grossomanides also presented George Karageorge the 2014 AHEPAN of the Year; Past Presidents Gavel to George Nakos. THE AHEPA Businessman for 2014 was presented to Bro Drew Andrews in recognition for his outstanding leadership with the growth of his company, Whittlesey & Hadley, CPA, LLC of Hartford. AHEPA Academy recipients Christopher Augustinos and Yiannis Mantzaris were presented AHEPA Scholarship Cer-

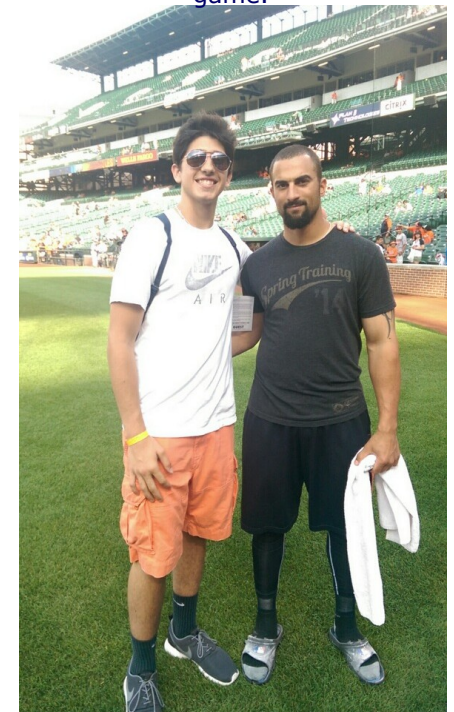
tificates and Metals by Supreme Governor Nick Nikas and George Nakos President, AHEPA Hartford Foundation. A special thank you to the planning committee: Adele Antoniou, Elaine Melonopoulos, Tina Smith, Sara Smith, Helene Moran, Wendy Kontogouris, Betsy Antonio, Marie Klementon, John Melonopoulos, Paul Matsikas, Jordan Smith, George Karageorge; George Bouzakis; Jerry Copsinis, Jerry Pangakis, Chris Merisotis, Larry Papanic, Chef Brother Tony Kazakos for their input and execution of the program.



- Pictured on the left is PSP J. Grossomanides presents 50 year Award to Mr. Jim Pitchell
- Pictured below is Hellene of the Year C. Psaras with Supreme. Governor Nick Nikas
- Pictured bottom left is District Treasurer John Melonopoulos



Yianni Mantzaris, from local Chapter #58 in Hartford, CT was one of the attendees during this year's Ahepa Academy that was held the week of June 22nd at George Mason University in Virginia. Along with participating in informational sessions daily, this once in a lifetime opportunity gave students the opportunity to visit and experience sites such as the Baltimore aquarium, Smithsonian museums and the Washington monuments, just to name a few. Yianni had a truly amazing experience, learned many new things and made friends with Greek American students from all over the country. Pictured to left is Yianni Mantzaris along with professional baseball player and Ahepa Brother, Nick Markakis from the Baltimore Orioles during one of Ahepa Academy's trips to the Orioles and Tampa Bay Rays baseball game.



Winthrop AHEPA #250



WINTHROP CHAPTER 250 AHEPA Winthrop Chapter 250 participated in the annual Celebrate East Lyme street fair in Niantic on July 19, 2014.

A food stand selling gyros, chicken souvlaki, hot dogs and soda was operated by a dozen AHEPA members along with family and friends. Over \$3300 was taken in netting \$2600 in profit for the Chapter's scholarship program. The members enjoyed the comradery and the magnificent weather which contributed to a sold out event. The chapter plans to participate again next year.



Son's of Pericles #61

The Waterbury Sons of Pericles (Solon #61) held their 8th Annual Hall of Fame Banquet on March 22nd at Holy Triity Greek Orthodox Church in Waterbury, CT. This year, the Sons honored then-Daughters of Penelope District Governor Mrs. Penny Peck. The event was well-attended by members of Penny's family, close friends, parishioners, and numerous AHEPANS and Daughters of Penelope. The Sons would like to sincerely thank all who attended and contributed to one of their most memorable events to date.

Members of the Waterbury Sons volunteered their time to the first annual "Nite at the Races" held at Holy Trinity in Waterbury. Proceeds from the event went to benefit the ongoing charitabel efforts of the AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope. The Sons also bought a horse for the event, which they named "Periclean Perfection."

Several members of the Waterbury Sons of Pericles were in attendance at this year's District Convention in Newport, RI. Supreme President John Ververis, Niko Kotsaftis, George Tinios, and David Gagas were all in attendance to witness the swearing in of Waterbury's own Alex Boutsioulis and Myrsini Papoutsis as AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope District Governors respectively. They were joined by Supreme Treasurer Andreas Christou of Albany, NY, and Past Supreme President/AHEPA District 7 Sons Advisor Rick Pecka.

The Waterbury Sons held their annual elections in late May. Congratulations are in order for Chapter President Nico Ververis on his second term, as well as Vice President David Gagas, Secretary Mike Karich, and Treasurer Rob Bol-lard.

**Wishing everyone
a Happy Halloween
& Happy Thanksgiving!**

AHEPA District #7 Yankee News

Editor-in Chief : Krystyna Kazakos
Contributing Editors—
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**Next Yankee News Deadline is:
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I am grateful and honored to be elected to serve AHEPA as the Supreme Governor for Region 4. To succeed, I need your cooperation and support.

Our goals are to increase membership and to continue providing services to our communities.

My Personal goal is to visit as many chapters as possible within Region 4, comprised of Districts 7,8, & 9 covering all of New England.

**—Frank P. Fotis
Supreme Governor**

Norwich AHEPA 110 Picnic For Senior Residents a huge success!

Saturdays picnic was a epic example of what team work can accomplish. The Norwich 110 Housing Corporation held an outstanding picnic for over 100 Senior Citizens and guests of AHEPA 110 Apartments. On Friday morning, John and Anna-Hellene Grossomanides, Tony Petros, Joe Hominski, Peter Argiros and Democles Angelopoulos traveled to Waterford to purchase all the supplies for the picnic from BJ's and filled up Joe Hominski's pick-up truck. On Saturday, at the picnic, there were 20 Ahepans and wives and family members who all pitched in and did all the preparation work and the serving, to make it an outstanding event. We want to thank all those who gave up their Saturday to make our Senior Citizens very happy. We have never received so many compliments. Volunteers included: John & Anna-Hellene Grossomanides, Peter & Virginia Argiros, Tony & Heidi Petros, John & Liz Louziotis, George Maitrelis, Joe & Helen Hominski, Democles & Jackie Angelopoulos, Peter & Francis Pappas, Peter Patsouis, Ernie Pool, David & Lynn Toolan and Jo-ann Trainor. A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL. The menu consisted of Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Potato Salad, pickles, chips, cole slaw - with plenty for everyone. Just as soon as we finished our food, the Mister Softee Ice Cream truck came to the picnic pavilion and everyone was treated to ice cream cones and sundaes. The line was long and everyone seem to enjoy the visit by the ice cream truck. To top off the day, the Norwich Rose City Barber Shop Chorus, with 12 singers, entertained us with several old tyme favorite songs. During the day, we were visited by the Mayor of Norwich, Deb Hinchey, who gave us the greetings of the City of Norwich. In addition, the District Governor of Yankee District No. 7 - Alex Boutsoulis and Daughters Governor Myrsini Papoutsis attended the picnic.

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What is the mission of AHEPA? (Visit www.ahepa.org for more information)

The mission of the AHEPA Family is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence.

Hellenism

An important component of AHEPA's mission is to create an awareness of the principles of Hellenism to society. These principles include a commitment to humanity, freedom, and democracy. The preservation and promotion of these ideals is where AHEPA has, and always will be, deeply committed. AHEPA educates the community on these matters through symposia, forums, and conferences.

Education

AHEPA's commitment to education has been well documented throughout its history. Over \$4 million is endowed at the local, district and national levels toward the use of scholarships and a half-million dollars is awarded annually. Thousands of young men and women have benefited as recipients of AHEPA scholarships at these various levels. The most famous recipient, perhaps, is ABC News' Host of This Week George Stephanopoulos. The scholarship program at the national level is administered by the AHEPA National Education Foundation. It offers scholarships to a wide variety of students. Recipients are: traditional and non-traditional students; seminarians, including those entering Holy Cross Greek School of Theology; and high school seniors, college and post-graduate students who are looking to become tomorrow's leaders. The preservation of Hellenic or Classical Studies programs on college campuses is an important issue for the AHEPA Educational Foundation. A subcommittee of the Foundation, the Hellenic Cultural Commission, actively works to support the study of the Classics at universities. In addition, educational programs such as "Journey to Greece" and Washington Internships are sponsored by the Foundation.

Philanthropy

Philanthropy and volunteerism have been pillars of strength for AHEPA. From natural disaster relief to raising funds for the elimination of life-threatening diseases to making significant contributions to our local neighborhoods, AHEPA is at the forefront of charitable giving. AHEPA's philanthropic deeds are evident in the restoration of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island; in the Halls of St. Basil Academy, a childcare facility in Garrison, N.Y.; in the care packages we sent to our troops in cooperation with the USO; and in the building of healthcare facilities in Greece. Yet this only scratches the surface of the numerous philanthropic works of the association. In addition, countless charitable projects are undertaken every year by AHEPA's chapters and districts.