



Yankee News

Publication of AHEPA District #7
Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Western Massachusetts
In Continuous Publication Since 1949
March, 2017



AHEPA University General Hospital of Thessaloniki

AHEPA Receives \$1.25 Million Gift from Estate of Nancy Horton Largest one-time cash gift will support the AHEPA Hospital in Thessaloniki

AHEPA announced a gift of \$1.25 million to its Charitable Foundation, the largest one-time cash gift from a donor in the organization's 95-year history, from the Estate of Nancy P. Horton. An annual donation will be made in Nancy Horton's name in support of the AHEPA Hospital in Thessaloniki, Greece. "Words cannot express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to Nancy Horton, a tremendous philhellene who was a philanthropist and academic," Supreme President Zachariades said. "Austerity measures have taken a toll on Greece's public health sector where public hospitals' budgets have been slashed and medical supplies recycled. Nancy Horton's generosity will help to address this dire situation."

Nancy Horton, an author and poet, passed away February 18, 2016, at the age of 103. Horton was the daughter of George Horton, who was the former United States Consul General in Athens and Smyrna at the time of the September 1922 Catastrophe. He authored the book, "The Blight of Asia," which was a first-person eyewitness account of the Smyrna Catastrophe.

"Nancy Horton's extraordinary benevolence will be memorialized at the AHEPA Hospital in Thessaloniki," said Nicholas A. Karacostas, chairman, AHEPA Board of Trustees. "It's her selfless charitable giving that will allow AHEPA to continue to meet its public health assistance to Greece; a commitment that AHEPA has maintained for seven decades, starting in the aftermath of World War Two."

Executive Director Basil Mossaidis added, "AHEPA is deeply grateful to Nancy Horton, who appreciated the importance of philanthropy and education and the positive impact AHEPA has had in the community when it comes to meeting these facets of the organization's mission. Her example of donating to our organization is inspiring."

The AHEPA Hospital in Thessaloniki was dedicated in 1951. *AHEPA e-News! - Vol. 11 Issue 4 - Wednesday, January 25, 2017*



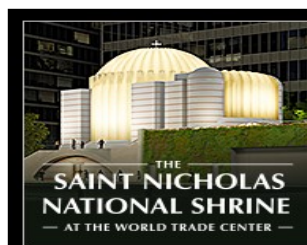
Nancy P. Horton



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 30, 2017 Statement on Executive Order on Immigration

Andrew C. Zachariades, Supreme President of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (Order of AHEPA), the leading association for the nation's millions of American citizens of Hellenic heritage and Philhellenes, has issued the following statement: "America is a nation of immigrants. Our immigrant forebears fled war-torn nations to come to America in search of peace, security, and a better way of life in pursuit of the American Dream. AHEPA was founded by visionary Greek immigrants who were determined to find harmony among their new neighbors in America and who sought to foster American patriotism and good citizenship. "The United States must be safe and secure. However, we believe an optimal immigration policy is one that strikes a balance between national security and the rule of law. "A broad travel ban based on an ethnic or religious test is inconsistent with American values and is counterproductive to our national security. We also believe refugees who have gone through extensive screening, and who are deemed to pose no threat to our national security, should be afforded the opportunity to pursue the American Dream. Moreover, although the Department of Homeland Security has

stated the travel ban does not include permanent legal residents, we are deeply concerned about the executive order's impact upon them and upon individuals with dual citizenship. "We urge the administration to revise its broad travel ban and maintain America as the world's beacon of freedom, liberty, and opportunity." ahopa@ahopa.org



Plan your Support.

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 St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church & Shrine by raising funds during the next two years.

All donations made from your chapter to National AHEPA should be made into one check payable to the AHEPA Foundation, Inc. - Memo: St. Nicholas Campaign.

Order of AHEPA—District 7
14 Hartung Place
Old Lyme, CT

06371-2230

AHEPA DISTRICT 7 SPRING CONFERENCE Saturday, March 18, 2017
St. George Greek Orthodox Church 301 West Main Street, New Britain, CT 06052



A MESSAGE FROM THE
AHEPA DISTRICT 7 GOVERNOR

Dear Brother AHEPANS, Daughters of Penelope, and friends of the Yankee District,

Happy New Year 2017! Although it is a new year, we continue to face familiar organizational issues. The first among these is membership. We are an aging fraternal organization. This means that we need to actively recruit new members each year just to balance annual losses and then attempt to grow our membership from there. In order to retain new members, they must become productive or they will not feel their efforts have value to AHEPA. These are the preventable losses.

The days of adding 1 new member a year per chapter are gone. For example, my home chapter of New London lost 3 life members in 2016 and other chapters are reporting similar circumstances. The good news for 2017 is that so far New London and Waterbury are in a position to add 9 and 5 (new members or reinstatements), respectively. The bad news is we are down 31 members in the district from 2015 to 2016. Chapters that are in trouble (you know who you are and so do we) need to make changes to improve their situation now. It doesn't happen overnight but regular positive changes will allow your membership to see the results of their hard work. To make progressive changes in our communities. Please contact me because we can help.

Fraternally,
Gregory Simones, PG
Governor, Yankee District 7



A MESSAGE FROM DAUGHTERS OF
PENELOPE DISTRICT 7 GOVERNOR

Dear Sisters,

Happy New Year 2017!
Someone once told me that everyone does one thing very well. What would that special thing be for you? Some people do many things well, but one thing usually stands out. You may consider your one thing as not being of much value. However, to someone whose strength lies in a different area than yours, that strength may be valuable. Some of us are visually strong and artistic. Others have strengths in technical areas such as computer skills and math. Some are creative. They can take ideas and apply them. Some of us have domestic skills, such as baking, while others have managerial skills and can get things done.

When we consider what we do in the Daughters: fund raising, charitable activities and scholarships, among others, We can understand the need for all the talents that need to exist for an organization to function properly. Think about what your abilities are. Step forward and jump in. Take part. Step up. Share your talents with your sisters. You may be the hidden gem in your chapter. This will enrich you in ways you never expected. It's wonderful to work for a common goal. Let your talents bloom.

Share with me the good things you're doing in your chapters. Utilize the Yankee News with pictures and articles about what you're doing. Spread the good news. We want to hear about it. Please invite me to meetings and events. KEEP IN TOUCH!

Yours in Theta Pi
Karen Isaac
District 7 Governor



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Demetrius Tasoulis	District Lt Governor
George Rados	District Secretary
John Melonopoulos	District Treasurer
Alex Boutoulis	District Advisor
Rick Pecka	Sons Pericles Advisor
Jack Isaac	Supreme Governor, Region 4

THE YEARS GO FAST.
ENJOY THEM TODAY.

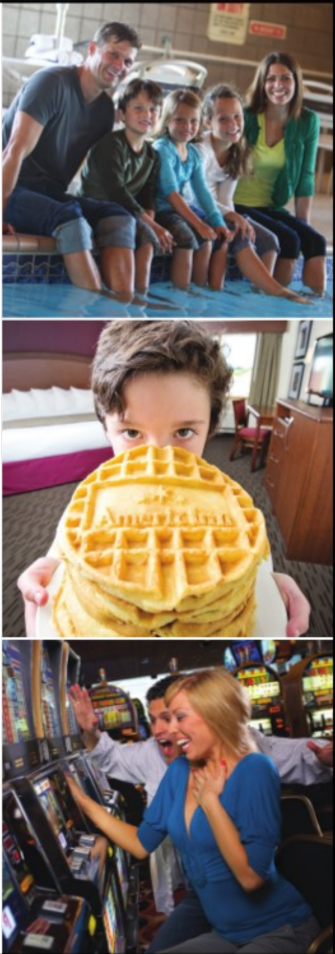
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AHEPA DISTRICT 7 SPRING CONFERENCE
Tentative AHEPA Meeting Agenda
 Saturday, March 18, 2017

St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 301 West Main Street, New Britain, CT 06052

9:00 – 9:30 AM
 9:30 – 10:30 AM

Registration and Continental Breakfast
Workshops
 Chapter Communications/Strategic Planning
 Demonstration of New Membership/Billing System
 Service Dogs for Warriors Presentation

10:30 AM – 1:00 PM

AHEPA Meeting
 Introductions
 District Secretary - 2016 Fall Conf. Meeting Minutes
 Jack Isaac – Supreme Lodge Information
 Demetrius Tasoulas – District Membership Goals
 Nicholas Nikas - Hellenic History Tournament
 John Melonopoulos – Yankee News
 John Grossomanides – Education Foundation Fundraising and Annual Awards
 Rick Pecka – Sons of Pericles
 Alex Boutsoulis – PDG Board of Governors
 Greg Simones - District 7 Governor’s Report
 Chapter Announcements
 Open Discussion

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
 2:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Lunch
Adjournment

Compliments



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See ya real soon!



May Their Memories Live Eternal

Martin Gottesdiener



Martin Gottesdiener passed peacefully in his sleep on Jan. 8, 2017. He was surrounded by family.

Marty was born to Isadore and Lena Gottesdiener on Nov. 15, 1924, in Brooklyn, N.Y. In 1938, the family moved to New London where Marty attended the

Bulkeley School and played right guard on their powerhouse football team.

After graduation, Marty joined the U.S. Army where he served with distinction as a forward observer in the field artillery during World War II. He was discharged after the war a Staff Sgt., and earned two ribbons and two metals. He carried the pride of service for the rest of his life.

After the war, Marty attended the University of Connecticut where he studied accounting and law. In the summer of 1952, Marty met Barbara Jacobs on the boardwalk of Ocean Beach Park, and married her in the spring of 1953. She became his wife of 63 years, and together they had four beloved children. They raised their children to be kind, hard working and ethical. They will always be his pride and joy.

Newly married, a growing family, and his service and education behind him, Marty set out to make his mark in the business world. He started Martin Gottesdiener & Company, CPA's and built a reputation as an astute business advisor, turnaround specialist, and entrepreneur. He was known for his fierce loyalty to his clients and friends and their businesses. He founded two banks including the Bank of Southeastern CT. At times he ran numerous other businesses including Pilgrim Airlines, car dealerships, a resort, and travel companies. He was also a longtime faithful member of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA) for 34 years.

In his 50s, after some "gentle" prodding by his beloved wife, Marty put down his trusty pipe and cigars, and discovered the fitness craze, taking up golf, tennis, and running with passion. Periodically, Marty would slow down enough to travel the world with his wife. He loved his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchild deeply, and instilled in them his most closely-held values, education, hard work and integrity. He will be remembered for his intelligence, sharp wit, work ethic, war stories, and endearing and charismatic smile.

Marty is survived by his cherished wife, Barbara Jacobs Gottesdiener; his four children, Dr. Keith Gottesdiener, Bart Gottesdiener, Lawrence Gottesdiener, and Amy Gottesdiener; his daughters-in-law, Beth Jacobs and Robyn Belek Gottesdiener; his younger brother, Emanuel; his sisters-in-law, Shirley and Ray (wife of his older brother Nathan, who passed in 2002); six grandchildren, Laura, Andrew, Matthew, Ben, Jesse, and Asher; and one great-grandchild, Aaron Gottesdiener.

Constantine Agortsas



Constantine Agortsas, age 92, passed on peacefully with his family at his side in his home on Saturday, August 20th, 2016, in Fairfield, CT.

Constantine Agortsas is survived by his wife, of 58 years, Mary Agortsas; his daughter Nia Agortsas,

of Astoria, NY; his son George Agortsas of Mission Viejo, CA, a daughter-in-law Janice Agortsas and grandson Alex Agortsas of Mission Viejo, CA. He was also survived by 3 sisters; Paraskevi Rouggou of Stratford, CT; Sofia Petrou of Lithoriki, Fokidos; and Andriana Nikolaou of Agia Triada, Livadia, Greece. He left behind many nieces & nephews in the USA and Greece. Constantine was born on February 24, 1924 in Dorikon Fokidos, Greece, to parents George and Ourania Agortsas. Constantine was a great family man, loving and disciplinary father.

He was a social, active man who was deeply involved in many church organizations, such as the Bridgeport chapter of AHEPA, the Senior Citizens Group and the Athletic Committee. He was one of the founding members of PAIDEIA in Storrs CT, and a vice president of the Parish Council of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of Bridgeport. He donated his time and money to various charities and organizations. He was very "philoxenos" – hospitable- with all he met. He always had a smile and a joke to share with people. His heart and home was open to all.

Constantine found pleasure in entertaining at his home with family and friends. He liked to be the "life of the party". He worked in the Fairfield Public School System as a mason for 20 years, a job he enjoyed. Additionally, he worked for more than 10 years in construction in Greece. He was able to retire at 65 years of age and enjoy his retirement of 27 years taking care of his home and traveling with his wife. He had a curious mind, liked to read and use his tablet. He considered himself very fortunate to have immigrated to the USA with his family in 1968. He had elementary level education but that did not stop him from achieving his dream of coming to the USA. His motto was to work hard and save so can build a better life for himself and his family, which he achieved.

Eptahorian Saint George Society
Founded in Nashua, NH in 1903

Since its inception, June 3, 1924, Greek-Americans from Eptahori, Greece have taken an active role in AHEPA Chapter 48 of Waterbury, Connecticut.

Currently, over forty Eptahorians are also involved fraternally in the AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope.



THANK YOU, WATERBURY DAUGHTERS!

Daughters of Penelope Deucalion Chapter 199 of Waterbury have joined Hartford & New Britain Daughters of Penelope Chapters to have their members added to the YANKEE NEWS mailing list for assisting with sales of \$200 in advertising. The YANKEE NEWS staff appreciates this effort .
BRAVO!

IOCC DONATION

Greg Stamos

The IOCC received a donation of \$1,000.00 from New Haven Chapter #98 and St. Barbara's Church. Photo - left to right: Evangelos Hadjimichael, Chapter President, Lou Zagami of the IOCC, Greg Stamos, Past Supreme Counselor, George Scarveles, Past Supreme Governor.



MEET A SPONSOR—AEGEAN AIRLINES

Olga Valasaki, Public Relations

«Aegean Airlines, a member of Star Alliance, is Greece’s largest airline providing ever since its inception in 1999 until today, full service, premium quality short and medium haul services. In 2013 AEGEAN acquired Olympic Air; as a result passengers now have increased flight frequencies and connections as well as improved accessibility to Greece’s islands, including some of the most remote ones. Through the Athens hub, there are numerous connecting opportunities to cities in the neighboring countries such as the Balkans and Turkey as well as cities in the Middle East. AEGEAN has carried 11.6 million passengers in 2015. The company’s 2017 timetable includes a network of 145 destinations, 112 international in 40 countries and 33 domestic. The flights are being performed with one of the youngest fleets in Europe, comprising of 61 aircraft, after AEGEAN’s recent investment in 7 new additional Airbus A320ceos and 2 ATR 42-600.

AEGEAN has been honored with the Skytrax World Airline award, as the best European regional airline for 2016. It is the seventh time that the company has received this distinction, the previous being in 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and in 2015. Find out about Aegean’s services and products by visiting www.aegeanair.com or simply download the Aegean iPad or iPhone app and navigate through useful information about your trip wherever you may be. Aegean fans may follow the company via social networks and channels like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.»



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TOM GOBER
PAST SUPREME
GOVERNOR



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Storrs

- ◆ Brother Fr. Charles Simones of Three Hierarchs celebrated his 85th birthday on January 30th.

New London

- ◆ Brother Fr. Dean Panagos of St. Sophia Hellenic Orthodox Church (New London) was honored on February 12th for his 25 year anniversary of his ordination.

Waterbury

- ◆ Congratulations to George Harlamon and Jessica Varrone upon their marriage Saturday, October 1, 2016 in Waterbury, CT. George is the son of James (Jay) Harlamon and the late Effie Tziavas. George is also the grandson of Katherine Harlamon and the late George Harlamon and the grandson of Angeliki Tziavas and the late John Tziavas.
- ◆ The Waterbury Sons of Pericles Chapter held their annual regional basketball tournament on Saturday, November 12, 2016. Six teams from Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York participated in the tournament, with a team from the New York City area winning the event.
- ◆ Congratulations to Steven and Nicki Gagas on their 55th wedding anniversary on December 31, 2016.

Meriden

- ◆ Congratulations to Nicholas Manos, son of Sister Menia & Bro. George Manos, and Brittany Nemphos, granddaughter of PDG Artemis Nemphos for receiving scholarships from New Britain AHEPA. Brittany was a national scholarship recipient in 2015 and has now been hired with Price Warehouse & Coopers.
- ◆ Congratulations to Sophia and Elias Manos for participating in the Hellenic History Tournament.
- ◆ We are happy to hear that Brother Valentine Tella and Brother Nick Lampros are recuperating and well on the road to recovery . Congratulations to Sister Maria Theodoratos on her retirement!
- ◆ Congratulations to Sister Mary Petrus on the marriage of her daughter Christine to Toby Bates!
- ◆ Welcome back to Bro. Greg and DOP President Helen Ladas from Florida, Sister Mary Petrus who visited Greece, Russia and Israel, and Sister Margaret Curtis from Italy who visited her grandson Ryan who is studying there.



A LETTER FROM ST. BASIL ACADEMY
TO THE NORWICH AHEPA

January 10, 2017

I wish to thank you and all your AHEPANS for your Christmas donation of 27 \$25 AMEX cards for the children of St. Basil Academy. God bless you all. The Norwich community has been a steadfast supporter of our youngsters over the years. We are growing every year and you continue to make Christmas a joyous experience for each and every child here.

Your commitment and willingness to help the Academy is a tribute to your faith, stewardship, and love in Christ. Saint Basil Academy has been able to continue providing a safe haven to children for over seventy years, thanks to the generosity of our many Philoptochos women, faithful individuals, and organizations across the United States like yourselves. We humbly ask you for your continued prayers and support of our Academy so that we can continue to fulfill our mission by providing a "home away from home" for our Orthodox children in need.

God bless you for your generosity. May our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ bless you all, your families, and your entire community throughout this entire New Year.

In His Service,
Fr. Constantine L. Sitaras
Executive Director
St. Basil Academy

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Jack Isaac

Last issue I broached the subject of the declining membership numbers of AHEPA. I spoke about the accomplishments and benefits of the Order for the last 95 years, and why AHEPA should remain the premier Greek-American fraternal organization. The numbers are in for 2016 and, to everyone's dismay, they are down.

This now appears to be a continuing trend with potentially disastrous ramifications. It is possible in our concentration on numbers we have ignored the fact that perhaps its more important to have dedicated, committed members rather than just "paper members" who contribute nothing but their annual dues and whose loyalty can evaporate in a heartbeat.

I don't know the answer but I'm going to commit some space in the next issue to hear our readers thoughts on this subject. Email us your ideas as to why this trend is occurring and how it can be turned around. I hope to hear from many former offices both National and District wide as well as local. You have a lot of experience. I'm sure you've thought about what's taking place and have valuable insights.

The Pan Macedonian Dance Troupe

recently performed in Hartford, CT. They were hosted at the Mykonos Restaurant by the Elpis Chapter of New Britain. Some Attendees were: SG Jack Isaac, DOP DG Karen Isaac, NB President Manny Stergakis, Hellenic Affairs chairman George Rados, DOP PDG Donna Rados, NB DOP Sue Leppones and troupe director George Papadopoulos.

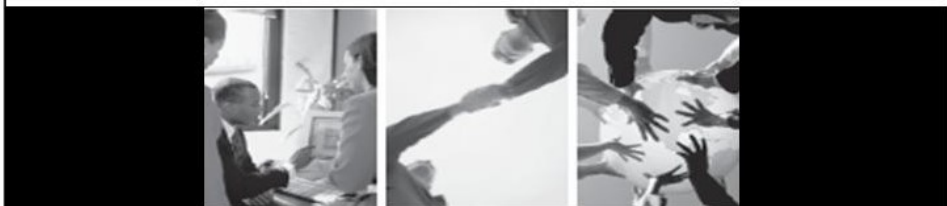


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AND INFORM
DISTRICT 7 AHEPANS**

OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR’S DISTRICT 7 AHEPA FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!
Listed Alphabetically by Recipient’s Last Name Below

NAME		CHAPTER		NO.	ACADEMIC INSTITUTION	MAJOR	SCHOLARSHIP	AWARD
Stephanie	Antonellis	New Haven	AHEPA	98	Southern CT State University	Art Therapy	DoP District 7 Lodge	\$1,000
Katerina	Bouzakis	Waterbury	AHEPA	48	Southern CT State University	Communication	Mary & Angelo Pappas	\$750
Margarete	Calmar	New London	AHEPA	250	Duke University	Philosphy	Peter E. Mitchell Memorial	\$750
Kristina	Dibble	Waterbury	AHEPA	48	Marist College	Biology	Peter E. Mitchell Memorial	\$1,000
Christina	Flynn	New London	AHEPA	250	Brown University	Comparative Literature	Mary & Angelo Pappas	\$1,000
Steven	Gagas	Waterbury	AHEPA	48	University of Connecticut	Accounting	Mary & Angelo Pappas	\$1,000
Drew	Gazetos	Danbury	AHEPA	90	University of Connecticut	Pharmacy	Macricostas	\$1,000
Nefeli	Makris	Hartford	AHEPA	58	University of Connecticut	Nursing	Mary & Angelo Pappas	\$1,000
Nicholas	Manos	New Britain	AHEPA	117	University of Connecticut	Mechanical Engineering	Mary & Angelo Pappas	\$750
Adrianna	Mihalek	Waterbury	DoP	199	Eastern CT State University	Communication	Mary & Angelo Pappas	\$1,000
Brittany	Nemphos	Meriden	DoP	76	Villanova University	Finance/International Business	Mary & Angelo Pappas	\$1,500
Stephanie	Sorosiak	Waterbury	DoP	199	Arizona State University	Dance	Mary & Angelo Pappas	\$1,500
Angelica	Storino	Danbury	AHEPA	90	Fordham University	Biological Sciences	Macricostas	\$750
Christina	Storino	Danbury	AHEPA	90	Fordham University	History	Macricostas	\$1,000
Kristina	Tougas	Hartford	DoP	198	Columbia	Architecture	Macricostas	\$1,000
Nicholas	Tracey	Waterbury	AHEPA	48	Bentley University	Accounting - Finance	Macricostas	\$1,000
Zach	Tzepos	Waterbury	AHEPA	48	University of Connecticut	Molecular Biology	Mary & Angelo Pappas	\$1,000



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*Best wishes to the Brothers
in Yankee District #7*



**Vincent Antonelli, DDS
Ted Malahias, DDS
Sean Kim, DDS, MAGD**

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6

News from Daughters of Penelope PRIAM CHAPTER 92 of MERIDEN

The Daughters of Priam Chapter 92 of Meriden, CT had a great start for this year. In September we had our annual picnic with the Ahepans. In November our chapter and Eretria Chapter of New Britain hosted Founders Day together at St. George Church in New Britain with a Thanksgiving theme. In December we collected donations of clothing and household supplies for the Chrysalis, battered women shelter in Meriden. They were very grateful as they rely on the support from the community and individuals. We also had our Christmas Party with the Ahepans, who brought the wine to go with all of the food. A good time was had by all. Our chapter hosts a coffee hour after the Liturgy at Saint George once a month for the parishioners. We also help during the church May festival and other church functions. In March we will be having our annual Walk-a-Thon. The Sunday school and Greek school students also participate in this event. This is a charity we all enjoy. In March we are sponsoring a French Toast breakfast for Godparents Day at Saint George.



Meriden DOP: (back) Helen Ladas, Margaret Odishoo, Lisa Elder, Mary Petrus, Lillian Tella, Voula Biros, Artemis Karapanos, Chrys Lampros, Menia Manos, Eva Kokis, Olympia Soteriou, (front) Dena Vouras, Artemis Nemphos, Maria Theodoratos, Margaret Curtis, Androula Vastakis, and Pat Pappas. Not pictured: Karen Nemphos.

Norwich Chapter #110 AHEPA News

The Order of AHEPA Chapter #110 Rose of New England continues to prosper. The chapter finished the year with a membership of 97, the highest of any chapters in Connecticut and Rhode Island. This year's project will be the promotion and sale of our *Book of Greek Americans Veterans from the Norwich Community*. A large thank you for the enormous efforts of Tony Petros who authored this outstanding manuscript. The book is available for purchase for \$24.95 not including shipping with all proceeds to be donated to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of Norwich, CT. The Chapter continues to support St. Basil Academy by collaborating with the Daughters of Penelope Chapter 181 to give twenty seven \$25 gift cards to all the children at St. Basil Academy for Christmas. In addition, the chapter supported the Holy Trinity Ladies Philoptochos with the auction purchase of a \$100 Vasilopita. This year the chapter is excited to host several events: AHEPA Sunday on May 21, 2016 and the AHEPA New England Region Convention May 5-7, 2017 at the Holiday Inn in Norwich.

A New Generation Enters the Order of AHEPA

Proud father, Brother George Balassi, pins his son Greg at his initiation into the New London Chapter of AHEPA. Participating were members of the District Lodge including Greg Simones, Lt. Governor Demetrius Tasoulas and District Treasurer John Melonopoulos. Administering the oath was Supreme Governor Jack Isaac, assisted by Chapter President George Mitchell.

It's always exciting to see the son of an active Ahepan enter into his father's fraternity. We should educate our children in an understanding of the work being done by AHEPA and to encourage them to become brothers.



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

Celebrating our 87th Year



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Southeastern Connecticut
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BRIDGEPORT NEWS

Atty. John T. Bochanis

The Bridgeport Chapter of AHEPA together with the Daughters of Penelope held their annual Holiday party at The Spinning Wheel Restaurant in Redding. The Bridgeport Chapters of AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope hold an annual joint party each year before the holidays. It has been an annual tradition for many years that both organizations enjoy together. The host for this past years party was the Spinning Wheel Restaurant in Redding which is owned by the children of Brother Jim Yeotsas and Daughter Helen Yeotsas.



The Bridgeport Chapter of AHEPA and the Bridgeport Chapter of the Daughters of Penelope recently assisted the Skanderis Family in the annual food basket donations to the need in Bridgeport. Each year the Skanderis Family in memory of their deceased daughter donates food baskets to the needy. The Bridgeport Chapter of AHEPA and the Bridgeport Chapter of the Daughters of Penelope assisted in distributing the food baskets to the residents of the public housing complex Beardsley Gardens in Bridgeport.



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NEWS FROM DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

Hermes Chapter 41, Bridgeport, CT

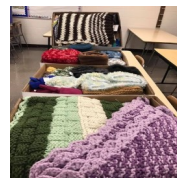
Cindy Waldron, Chapter President

Cpt. 41 started the year with the initiation of a new member and the annual cutting of the Vasilopita. Our Turkey Raffle and Wreath and Planter Sale which help fund our scholarship program continue to be a success. We had our first Tailgate on Super Bowl Sunday which included a Chili Cookoff, wings, nacho bar, and a lot of fun!

We completed our Let's Keep Them Warm Drive collecting hats, gloves, scarves, socks and blankets for shelters, street ministries, inner city schools and local hospitals. This year we also sent boxes of items from our knitting group and collection to Penelope's Place. Our knitting club continues to meet regularly. Our items have been going to shelters in the community. The group has knitted baby blankets for the 40-day old babies at our church, hats that have been donated to cancer patients, and lap blankets for the elderly in nursing homes or hospitals. To date we have knitted several hundreds of items and we continue to bring in new people to our group. The group is open to everyone.

Our Acts of Kindness begin in January and we started a series of mini-drives where we will collect various items such as pet food, toiletries and books. In addition, we continue to participate in "Under the Bridge" where we go on a monthly basis to give out various items to the homeless along with other church and philanthropic groups. To date we have given out hundreds of granola bars and peanut butter crackers along with many socks, hats, scarfs and toiletries.

We continue to look for new members and are planning our Mothers Day flower sale to be held in May. We will have many beautiful items to sell including our own hand knitted items from our knitting club. Follow us on Facebook, Daughters of Penelope—Bridgeport "Hermes" Chapter 41, District 7! We are now on Instagram under dopchapter41!



AHEPA New Rochelle Chapter #405 Honors Local Leader Nikitas Drakotos

The James Plevritis-

Joseph C. Keane, New Rochelle Chapter No. 405 in its annual initiation/luncheon, the chapter's signature event, honored AHEPA Brother Nikitas Drakotos, for his outstanding contribution to Hellenism, at the Westchester Country Club in Rye, New York on Saturday, December 3, 2016. AHEPA Supreme President Andrew Zachariades, assisted by numerous members of the Supreme and District Lodges, participated in the honors tribute. Key note speaker, Supreme President, Andrew Zachariades gave an inspiring address of his recent journey to Greece with President Obama and his visit with senior leaders of the European Union to the more than 200 guests attending the luncheon. "It's interesting to note, Supreme President Zachariades stated, AHEPA was the only Hellenic organization invited to attend these festivities in Greece". Nikitas Drakotos received a five minute standing ovation from the guests and AHEPANS who attended. The word "AXIOS" was repeated by everyone. Brother Nikitas Drakotos response was a humble gratitude to the large number of AHEPANS and guests, many who came from distances outside the Metropolitan area, from Albany, New Jersey and Connecticut to honor him. He attributed his success in America to his early years in Greece which gave him the courage and determination to come to America and build a successful journey.



Chapter #456 Chapter President John Levas and DOP PGP Christine Malgarinos. Supreme Treasurer Jimmy Kokotas is in the photo with District 7 Governor Greg Simones.



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**NEW BRITAIN AHEPA CLEBRATES ITS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY
AND ANNOUNCES ITS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS & SERVICE AWARDS**



Scholarship recipients (listed within article) with New Britain AHEPA Officers Jack Isaac, Ted Panacopoulos, Jim Loukopoulos, Manny Stergakis, Leo Papadimitriou, Perry Moustakakis & Harry Sitolides.

The New Britain AHEPA hosted its annual Christmas Party on December 3, 2016. As a result of the efforts of Chairman Demetrios Loukopoulos, New BritainAHEPANS, Daughters of Penelope plus the members of the AHEPA family from both Hartford and Meriden shared a wonderful evening of entertainment and good food.

The chapter was honored with the presence of a number of dignitaries: Supreme President Andrew Zachariades, Supreme Treasurer Jimmy Kokotas, SG Region # 4 Jack Isaac, DOP Grand Governor Lili Repass, DOP DG Karen Isaac, DG of District # 7, Gregory Simones and DG of District # 8 Dalton Respass.

Again this year the food was prepared by Teresa’s Catering. Singer George Karatzas and his Athenian Entertainment provided the music.

After the sumptuous meal, President Emmanuil Stergakis and Treasurer Pericles Moustakakis presented the 2016 AHEPA Chapter Scholarships. The Demetrius Kounaris Scholarship for outstanding service to the community of St. George was awarded to Kyriakos (Kurt) Karamanos.

President Stergakis assisted by Treasurer Moustakakis and Harry Sitolides presented the HELLENE of the Year Award to Demetrious Loukopoulos and the AHEPAN of the Year Award to Supreme Governor Jack Isaac.

SG Jack Isaac presented a special plaque to Brother Costas Georgacopoulos to bring to his daughter Stergia, who resides in Greece, for her time and effort volunteering at PIKPA an orphanage in Athens for children of special needs. At the conclusion of the distribution of awards, a collection and 50/50 raffle netted more than \$800.00 for PIKPA.

Again, this year the food was prepared by

Teresa’s Catering. Singer George Karatzas and his Athenian Entertainment provided the traditional and modern Greek music.

Five Nick Kounaris Charitable Educational Philanthropic Trust Scholarships were awarded. The students who received the scholarships and the colleges or universities they attend are:

- Alexandra Bouras – Tunxis Community College;**
- Demis Christodlous- Sienna College;**
- Nicholas Manos – University of Connecticut;**
- Marianna Nasiakos – Central CT State University;**
- Angela Panagopoulos – Marist College and**
- Nicholas Stergakis – Central CT State University.**



Chapter President Emmanuil Stergakis, Hellene of the Year Demetrious Loukopoulos, AHEPAN of the Year Supreme Governor Jack Isaac & Vice President Leo Papadimitriou.

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**Waterbury AHEPA Chapter 48
20th Annual Golf Tournament**
Alex Boutsioulis

On Sunday, September 11, 2016, Waterbury AHEPA Chapter 48 had its 20th annual golf tournament at the Chipanpee Country Club in Bristol, CT. The annual tournament, which had over 80 golfers participate this year, has raised approximately \$100,000 for the AHEPA Chapter 48 Scholarship Fund over its twenty year history.

In other news, over 20 Chapter 48 AHEPANS went to a Mets – Atlanta Braves baseball game at Citi Field in Queens, NY on Friday, June 15, 2016.

Our next AHEPA Chapter 48 fund raiser was Martin Luther King Day, Monday, January 16, 2017, 7 PM at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church banquet hall in Waterbury, CT. For \$30 guests received a terrific several course meal (several appetizers, pasta, salad, two entrees). All AHEPANS and Daughters of Penelope were invited and guests were well received. More information to come!



Happy Birthday, George!!

George Zikos, a 57 year AHEPAN, celebrated his 100th birthday with a party on June 26, 2016 with nearly 150 friends and relatives attending the affair at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Community Banquet Hall in Waterbury, CT. After Happy Birthday was sung by all, the highlight of the event was that George gave a very inspiring speech in both Greek and English.



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A few pictures of AHEPA District 7 Christmas Parties: "And to All a Great Night!"



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YANKEE DISTRICT NEWS

Published by District Lodge No. 7, Order of Ahepa and its Auxiliaries

Volume I

HARTFORD, CONN., MAY, 1949

Number 4

Waterbury Establishes New Auxiliary Chapter

On Sunday, January 30, 1949, the Waterbury Chapter of Ahepa, No. 48, held public installation of officers. Installing newly elected officers were District Governor Athan Angel, Lieutenant Governor George Margoles and Supreme Treasurer James Starr. Those installed were: President James Coukis; Vice-President, James Howse; Secretary, Michael Exarhou; Treasurer Anthony Vasilakos; Chairman, Board of Governors, James Pepides; George Coukis, Peter Stavros, and George Pistolas; Warden, William Constance.

On the same day, a new Chapter of the Daughters of Penelope was initiated and installed. Installing the newly elected officers were the District Governor of the Daughters Miss Elizabeth Pappas, Mrs. Louis Sakel of the Meriden Chapter, and Mrs. Tina Kakis, District Treasurer. Those installed were: President, Mrs. Stephen Mihalakos; Vice-President, Mrs. William Laskas; secretary, Mrs. Michael Exarhou; Treasurer, Mrs. James Mihalakos; Chairman, Board of Governors, Mrs. James Pepides; Mrs. Ann Budd, Mrs. Paul Armond, Mrs. James Coukis and Miss Joanne Rigo. (Continued on page 4.)

Meriden Annual Affair Combined Dance Event

Meriden Ahepa and Daughters' Chapters will hold their Annual Dances combined this year, on Sunday, May 15, at the Town Hall in Meriden. George Otis and his Orchestra will come from Boston to play for the affair.

Brother Leo Velleas Rites Held by Chapter

Brother Leo Velleas, 1948-1949 treasurer of the New Britain Chapter, died after a long illness. He is survived by his wife, two sons, mother, father, sister and brother. New Britain Ahepa Chapter performed special funeral ceremony at the Church. Members were pall bearers and older members were guard of honor.

Bridgeport Convention City Hotel Stratfield, June 5-6



WATERBURY DAUGHTERS

Officers of the new Daughters of Penelope, Order of Ahepa auxiliary, were installed recently at the Hellenic Orthodox Church. They are: seated (left to right), Mrs. Michael Exarhou, secretary; Mrs. William Laskas, vice-president; Mrs. Stephen Mihalakos, president; and Mrs. James Mihalakos, treasurer. Standing, Miss Elizabeth Pappas, Providence, district governor; Mrs. Louis Sakel, Meriden, district governor; Mrs. Paul Armond, Miss Joan Rigopoulos, Mrs. Ann Budd, Mrs. James Pepides, Mrs. Kay Coukis, all members of the board of governors; Miss Antoinette Kachulis, chaplain, and Mrs. Tina Kakis, district treasurer.—(American Photo.)

"News Niblets" Aux. Newspaper Publication

The aggressive Daughters have now begun a small publication called District No. 7 News Niblets, from the District Governor's office.

An interesting gathering of news items, the paper holds promise of some competitive nature to Yankee District News. (Ed. Note: We'd better change our editor.)

Good luck to N. N.—News Niblets.

Sunday morning, June 5, will find Bridgeport the converging point for several hundreds of Ahepans and Daughters of Penelope as they gather for hundreds of miles throughout the 7th District to attend the Ahepa District Convention under the auspices of the Bridgeport Ahepans. The city of Bridgeport, great industrial center of Connecticut, is located an hour and a half by train from New York City on the Connecticut shore. The convention committee promises an entertaining and efficient convention and looks forward to seeing once again the Ahepa District family assembled.

Convention headquarters will be at the Stratfield Hotel, 1241 Main Street, and the committee is headed up by the able Brother Nick Farmassony, former District Governor, and one of

(Continued on page 3.)

Danbury No. 90 Installs John Koukos, President

The Danbury Chapter No. 90 of the Order of Ahepa held a public installation of its newly elected and appointed officers on Sunday, March 20, at 9 Fairview Avenue.

District Governor Athan M. Angel acted as installing officer and was assisted by Steven Kremastiotes of Bridgeport who acted as Captain of the Guard.

The newly installed officers are, as follows: President, John G. Koukos; Vice-President, James P. Kane; Secretary, George J. Kefelas; Treasurer, Nelson Panasis; Board of Governors,

(Continued on page 3.)

We are collecting old copies of the YANKEE NEWS. Please send us any that you might have.



THE FIRST YANKEE NEWS MAY 1949

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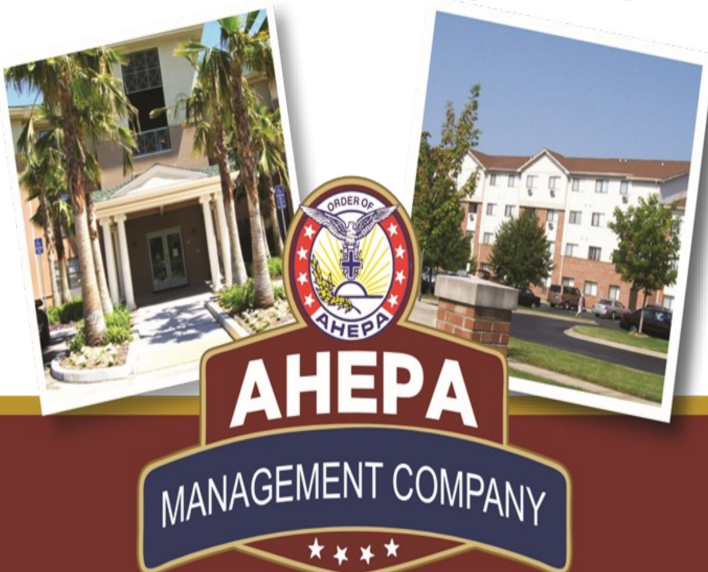
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PLEASE send pictures and articles TOGETHER whenever possible, with those in the picture(s) named in the context of the article or with it. Submit your information TO YANKEED7NEWS@AOL.COM to be certain your submissions -in their entirety- get to us by the deadline.

CALENDAR

Wed., March 15, 2017 - Deadline for District Scholarship Applications

Sat., March 18, 2017 - AHEPA District 7 Spring Conference

Please be advised: There will not be a Daughters Conference this Spring.

Fri., March 24, 2017 - Greek Independence Day Program, Hartford, CT

Sun., March 26, 2017 - NYC Greek Independence Day Parade

Mon., March 27, 2017 - Deadline: Yankee News May Issue

Sat., April 1, 2017 - Deadline: Tri-District Convention Ads

Deadline: Convention Delegate Form

Deadline: AHEPAN & Hellene of the Year Nomination

Fri., April 21, 2017 - Deadline for NERC Registration

Mon., May 1, 2017 - NERC Banquet Dinner Reservation Deadline

Wed., May 3, 2017 - Capitol Hill Day & Reception, Washington, D.C.

May 5, 6 & 7, 2017 - Tri-District Convention, Norwich, CT

Sun., May 21, 2017 - AHEPA Sunday

Thur. June 1, 2017 - Deadline: National Convention delegate reporting

Sun., June 25, 2017 - Scholarship Foundation Luncheon, Waterbury, CT

Fri., June 30, 2017 - Deadline: 2017 Hellenic History Tournament

July 24-30, 2017 - National Convention, Orlando, FL

Tues., August 1, 2017 - Deadline: Yankee News September Issue

AHEPA District 7 Yankee News

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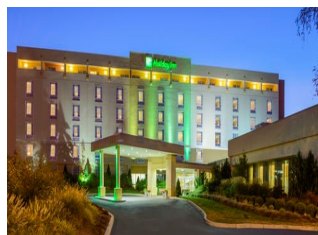
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