



Yankee News



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



"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.'"

- Luke 2:11-14

Wishing JOY to the Whole World
and PEACE to All on Earth.



The District 7
AHEPA Family Convention
- June 15, 2024 -
Hosted by AHEPA Chapter No. 48
Holy Trinity Church
937 Chase Parkway, Waterbury, CT





A MESSAGE FROM THE AHEPA D7 GOVERNOR

Dear Brothers, Fraternal Greetings.

Under normal circumstances the anticipated celebrations of Thanksgiving in November and Christmastime in December elevate our spirits; they lend us a sense of well-being in expectation of holiday joy and leisure, family reunions, and nature's fall and winter colors. This year, unfortunately, with two hot wars wreaking havoc, destruction, and death in two regions of the world, a cold war of significant proportions going on in the Pacific, the manifestly life-altering outcomes of climate change, as well as almost daily acts of social violence and polarization in our country, our spirits are dampened. Yet, amid all this uncertainty, the AHEPA brotherhood could serve as a harbor of peace and friendship and inspire confidence in its capacity for doing good without fail. May it be so. May we, AHEPA brothers, make it so by pursuing in unity the vision of AHEPA.

We need be alert, however, about the dynamic nature of the vision we are pursuing; it is apt to change with the passing of time. We have always saluted the AHEPA vision in its original form of 1922 and all it accomplished on behalf of immigrants over many decades. One hundred years later, it would be advisable to undertake the task of redefining with clarity the multi-layered goals of our brotherhood, from those to be accomplished at the grass roots level of chapters and districts to those shouldered by the upper echelon of the Supreme leadership. The affirmative duty of all Ahepans is to take part purposefully in this task, and to holistically plan the way our organization should express itself in years to come, by word and deed, to achieve a sense of accomplishment and fulfillment.

And so, we might begin to shape our future when chapters try to get to know each other more closely. In our district, we have two media to achieve this goal: the Yankee News and the D7 website, ahepadistrict7.org. D7 chapters are invited to continue sharing their calendar of events, activities, and opinions via the pages of the Yankee News and the e-pages of the D7 website. Send your news, with photos, if possible, to the editor of the YN, Jack Isaac, and the publisher, Terry Plumley. For contact information, visit the D7 website and click on Yankee News. For posting chapter information, events, and updates, on the D7 website, send materials to me. The webmaster Wynn Storton will promptly accommodate information on the website.

A brief reference to the 2023 D7 Fall Conference is in order. A longer article is posted in this issue of YN. The Conference was held on Saturday, October 21, in the facilities of the Saint George Cathedral in Hartford. Here, it suffices to extend thanks to the hosts of the conference, AHEPA Chapter 58 and DOP Chapter 198, and to acknowledge with gratitude the participation of representatives from the Supreme Lodge, Supreme VP Chris Kaitson and Secretary of the Board of Trustees, Alex Geourntas; also, the presentation on Inter-Generational Organization of AHEPA Chapters by Glenn Arnold, and the review of the reactivation of the SOP Chapter Constantinople 15 in New Haven by Supreme SOP Governor George Antonellis.

Finally, I am reminding all chapters of their membership obligations to National. At the end of 2022, District 7 counted 720 paid and lifetime AHEPA members. As of the end of October 2023, the number was 616. It would be prudent for all D7 chapters to reach their 2022 numbers by December 31, 2023, and to exceed them, if possible. I had earlier communicated National's request to chapter leaders that we increase the D7 membership by one hundred new Ahepans. With a robust membership, AHEPA's voice will be better heard, and be a more powerful clarion call, as a worldwide organization. Best wishes for a happy Thanksgiving. Joy and peace for all on Christmas day.

E. Vagos Hadjimichael



A MESSAGE FROM THE DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE D7 GOVERNOR

Dear Sisters,

Wishing you and your families a joyous holiday season filled with love, laughter and health!

My second year as Governor has been busy and fulfilling.

On September 23, 2023, I attended the District Governors Leadership Conference in Washington, DC.

This year's theme, "Unity in our Community," emphasized the incredible power of unity in our organization. Unity empowers us to achieve great things, from the Grand Lodge to the District Lodge and the individual chapters. It fosters a sense of belonging and purpose, motivating and connecting our members to share their unique gifts and talents.

This year the Grand President's initiative focuses on supporting our seniors through Meals on Wheels. We request that each chapter contact their local community Meals on Wheels organization and find out how we can best assist them. Whether through fundraising or volunteering your time, as Daughters of Penelope, we are a strong commUNITY, and together, we can truly make a difference.

Our Fall Conference was held on October 21, 2023, which you can read more about in the article titled "Daughters of Penelope update on Fall Conference." I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the sisters who attended the Fall Conference in Hartford, CT, and Grand Governor Zone 2 / Liaison D7 Patty Didik from Hudson, FL.

This year conference was jointly hosted by Hartford AHEPA Chapter 58 and DOP Chapter 198. I'd like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the dedicated individuals who worked tirelessly to make the fall conference a success.

This year I focused my chapter outreach on attending as many local chapter events as possible:

- 09/10/23 – D7 chapter visitation, Eretrea Chapter #138, New Britain, CT
- 09/21/23 – Attended a delightful Trunk Show Fundraiser, Asteria Chapter #368, Danielson, CT
- 09/28/23 – Spent the day helping our hard-working sisters of Lysandros Chapter #181, Norwich, CT at their church Greek festival (after not having a festival for 3 years)
- 10/15/23 – Attended Beer Tasting Fundraiser, Eretrea Chapter #138, New Britain, CT
- 11/07/23 – Attended Harford AHEPA Family Turkey Dinner
- 11/09/23 – Served food and made dessert, South Park Inn homeless shelter
- 11/19/23 – Attended Founders Day coffee hour and promoted DOP

Below and on the last page are some **Dates to Remember** and mark in your calendars:

- 01/07/24 - Online Membership Program Workshop for D7 DOP members & officers
- 01/15/24 - Articles for Penelope's Scroll are due

As a reminder, please send me information about upcoming events and fundraisers. I will post them on our Facebook page and send a monthly email listing the events. I encourage all to attend events outside their chapters to get a broader view of the organization and support each other. Read more about this in the article "Seizing the Opportunities of Unity" on page 6.

Yours in Theta Pi,
Elisa Marotta

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EDITOR'S NOTES by Jack Isaac

I am extremely proud of the team we have put together for the Yankee News. This team has remained intact for the last decade and has won many National Awards. This is a remarkable achievement. One of the things we've tried to do is constantly innovate by introducing new features. Some have become instant reader favorites, like the **Salute to Veterans**. Others have not yet caught on.

With great excitement, I would like to introduce another feature that I feel will create some reader interest. I've often wondered, while watching our tremendously talented students receive scholarships either on the local or district level, what the future had in store for them. This led me to come up with a new segment of our paper called **Where Are They Now?** We are going to look at some scholarship winners and see what happened to them a decade or more after winning their scholarships.

I will need your help in this pursuit. Please let me know of former scholarship winners in your chapter who have gone on to achieve success in their particular field of endeavor. We plan to begin this feature in the next edition of the Yankee News.

The Greek OXI (ochi - NO) Day of October 28th, 1940

by Yiannis Apostolakis, Hellenic Affairs Chairman

The days before October 1940 were very difficult. Several European countries, including Austria, Poland, France, Belgium and others were under German control. Only England and some of the Balkan countries were still free, including Greece and Serbia. Mussolini, the dictator of Italy, wanted to use Greece as an opportunity to show Hitler a quick victory. On August 15th, the day Orthodox Christians celebrate the Dormition of the Holy Mother, the Italians sent a submarine to torpedo a Greek warship at the island of Tinos. Through this cowardly act, many sailors died and all of Greece knew that war was inevitable. The Greek government had tried every possible way to avoid going to war, but this was about to change. On the night of October 28th, the Italian ambassador to Athens went to the home of President Ioannis Metaxas, woke him up, and asked for permission for Italian armed forces to come into Greece. Metaxa immediately replied, "OXI" (ochi - no).



Following this, he made an emotional radio address to the nation, then the king did the same, and general mobilization was immediately ordered. The war began, the sirens sound, the enemy planes flew over Greece, and the Italian army, invading through Albania, was on Greek land. Greece had just entered the 2nd World War. The following announcement was made on the radio: "The Italian forces attack. Since 5.30 this morning, our own troops at the Hellenic-Albanian borderline. Our forces defend our home land".

Most of the fight was in Epirus, at the mountainous terrain of Pindus. In the days that followed, the Greek people responded with decisiveness and rushed to voluntarily enlist in the army. What might have seemed to Mussolini an easy operation soon turned out to be a nightmare. Soon Greece counter-attacked and forced the Italian army back, deep into Albania (14 November 1940- 6 January 1941). Many Greek towns of Albania such as Argyrokastrò, Premeti, Aghii Saranta, Korytsa were liberated. It was a very harsh winter, and Greek soldiers had to fight cold and hunger as well as the Italian army. These events led Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister of England, to say that "the world will no longer say that Greeks fight as heroes, but heroes fight as Greeks."

Adolf Hitler was unwilling to allow Italy, his major ally, to be humiliated and he prepared to attack Greece, Britain's last European ally. Germans attacked both Yugoslavia and Greece on April 6, 1941. Resistance in Yugoslavia quickly collapsed. The Greek armies, reinforced by British, Australian and New Zealand forces, did not last much longer. Germans entered Greece and German soldiers raised the swastika flag over the famous Acropolis in Athens on April 27, 1941. The fight continued on the island of Crete. When Crete fell to the Germans, despite the heroic fight of its people, the Greek government and whatever was left of the Army moved to Egypt, joining the allies in fighting against the Germans and Italians. People in Greece suffered through a very cruel occupation. Many of them joined the resistance in fighting. Thousands of Greeks died from starvation, imprisonment and executions for fighting against the Germans. This did not take their hope for freedom away and in October of 1944 Greece was free again!

Greek heroism, against all odds, was the first glimmer of hope for the allies. The axis was not invincible after all. However, the most important contribution of the Greeks to the victory in the Second World War was that, in order to subdue the Greeks, Hitler wasted five precious weeks before invading Russia. As fate would have it, winter came early to Russia in 1941. The Russians were able to counterattack and push the Germans back to Germany.

Each year we celebrate the 28th of October, to give the proper honor and respect to those people who, against all odds, were the first to give hope of allied victory in the Second World War. Their epic achievements should be an everlasting source of example of sacrifice and pride for us, being their descendants. In addition, we should always have in our hearts the Greeks of Albania who, even now, are under very challenging conditions, struggling every day to maintain their Greek heritage and culture as well as their Orthodox faith. Let's all take a moment to recall, pay our respects and honor those who fought and gave everything they had, including their own lives, for the love of Freedom, Hellenism and Western values!



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AHEPA Chapter 48 of
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in the AHEPA and
Daughters of Penelope.



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To the outside world, we all grow old. But not to our brothers and sisters. To them we will live eternal.



Brother Gary J. Robinson passed away on Saturday, October 7, 2023 at the age of 81 years in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Gary was born in Manhattan, New York, raised in The Bronx, and attended Brooklyn Technical High School. His early life was occupied with the Cub and Boy Scouting leading to becoming an Eagle Scout. A highlight of his youth was a family move to live in Greece for a year and a half. Upon graduating from high school, he joined the New York Air National Guard and was trained as a radio repairman, moved to the Connecticut Air National Guard, and was honorably discharged as a Staff sergeant. He attended the University of New Haven (New Haven College) and Yale School of Public Health (School of Medicine). As part of his graduate work he was an Administrative Resident at Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center in The Bronx, after which he returned to Connecticut. He earned degrees in Industrial and Hospital Administration and he worked for IBM.

Gary was involved with many volunteer activities including Leadership New Britain Graduate, Past President of New Britain Chamber of Commerce, participant and leader of Vision New Britain (Vision 2000), Save Trinity-on-Main project (former Trinity United Methodist), served on the Board of Managers of the New Britain Institute, City Building Commissioner, Franco American War Veterans Post 26, supporter of TRIAD New Britain, a Life Member of Elks-957, a Life Member American Radio Relay League, a board member of the New Britain Youth Museum, Board of Directors Neighborhood Housing Services of NB, and a proud member of the Saturday Night Club of New Britain. Gary was involved in the New Britain Sister City Committee and was instrumental in achieving our AHEPA's Chapter creation of sisterhood between New Britain and Giannitsa/Pella in Macedonia, Greece.

Gary is survived by his wife of 41 years, Dolores, his daughter Kris Robinson of East Hampton and Grandchildren Emily and Kevin Robinson, and his brother Thomas (Phyllis) Robinson of Putnam Valley, NY. He was preceded in death by his parents Anna Margaret Robinson (Nee Schmitt) and Thomas Francis Robinson, and his son Erik. Gary always liked to figure out the mechanics of everything, therefore he donated his body to medical science. May his memory live eternal!

Salute to a Veteran - Paul Alexander

On October 6th, 1918, Paul was struck down by German Mustard Gas and hospitalized. While in the hospital, Private Alexander was visited by the French General Henri Gouraud (called the "One Armed General" as he lost his right arm in battle in 1915) who was in charge of the whole sector. The General heard about Alexander and came to present him the French *Croix de Guerre* medal. While there, the two became friends as they both were hunters in civilian life.



On October 14th, Alexander was again wounded in his left arm and wrist. The generals on both sides of the war would decided to declare an Armistice and end the war at 11 a.m. on November 11th, 1918, but the French generals decided to have one final battle on the day before - November 10th, hoping that they could gain more ground before the war ended. So for Alexander, he was ordered out of the trenches at 4 p.m., into a huge hail of machine gun fire. While advancing toward the German lines, Alexander was again brought down, this time with 4 bullets and he fell down, critically wounded and left for dead.

When that battle was over, and the American troops returned to their line, Alexander was not with them. Newspapers in America reported that he was killed in action. When the French general who befriended Alexander heard he was missing, he ordered a French search party to find him or his body and return him. Luckily, they found him, near death, and brought him back. If they hadn't found him, he surely would have died. Alexander had 4 machine gun bullets in him. After many operations they were able to remove three bullets, but one was about an eighth of an inch away from his heart and remained there the rest of his life.



The Croix de Guerre or Cross of War medal awarded for performing heroic deeds in combat.

Paul Alexander came to Norwich in 1926 and successfully ran "Alexander's Luncheon" until his death in 1958. Paul was driving home from work in December of 1958 when the car he was driving was found stopped at a traffic light. The doctor said that he died of the bullet that was still lodged next to his heart in 1918. Paul Alexander was an active member of Norwich AHEPA Chapter 110.

Compliments of the Officers of AHEPA "Rose of New England" Chapter #110, Norwich, CT



- Democles Angelopoulos ~ President
- Peter Patsouris ~ Vice President
- Chris Valkanos ~ Treasurer
- Telly Demestihis ~ Secretary



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E. Vagos Hadjimichael, PhD
District 7 Governor, Past President Chapter 98
Salutes the Dedication of the Yankee News Editorial Team and their Commitment to Excellence.



SAVAS C. TSIVICOS
AHEPA
SUPREME PRESIDENT

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 Margolis and Supreme Treasurer James Starr. Those installed were: President James Coukis; Vice-President, James Howe; Secretary, Michael Exarhou; Treasurer, Anthony Vasilakos; Chairman, Board of Governors, James Pappas; 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 Rigopoulos. (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.)

Sunday morning, June 5, will find Bridgeport the converging point for several hundreds of Ahepa 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 Ahepa. 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 Kremastotes of Bridgeport who acted as Captain of the Guard. The newly installed officers are, as follows: President, John G. Koukos; Vice-President, James F. Kane; Secretary, George J. Kefelas; Treasurer, Nelson Panasi; Board of Governors, (Continued on page 3.)

"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.

YANKEE DISTRICT NEWS

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

Volume V, MERIDEN, CONN., OCTOBER, 1952 No. 2

SPRINGFIELD HOST TO CONFERENCE

VERINIS REELECTED SUPREME SECRETARY, District Strongly Represented At Washington

Yankee District, No. 7, substantiating advance predictions, was strongly represented at the National Convention of the Order of Ahepa recently held at Washington, D.C. Under the capable and inspiring leadership of Governors Besse and Peter Verinis, approximately 85 members of the Ahepa and Daughters of District No. 7 participated in the social, educational and political activities of the Convention as Delegates, Alternates and Visitors. As in previous years, Yankee District, No. 7, played an important and vital role in the deliberations of the Conventions. Important committees were headed by members of our delegations. Politically our boys guessed right and with its strong voting strength our District was an important link in the chain of successes that the so-called "anti-administration" enjoyed from the outset of the Convention.

The Convention, deemed by many to be one of the finest ever sponsored, enacted many constructive and educational measures which during the coming year will do much to forge and develop a greater Ahepa Family.

Brother C. P. Verinis, in recognition of his outstanding Ahepa contributions, was re-elected Supreme Secretary, again bringing glory and prestige to our District. The many reforms measures adopted through his initiative at the Convention, and the unity of strength which District No. 7 has displayed over the year, more than justified the confidence reposed in Brother Verinis. Sister Pats Sarantis of Pittsburgh, Pa., long an ardent worker for the Daughters of Penelope, brought further glory and prestige to the Easterners in her election as Grand President.

Newly elected Supreme Lodge Officers of the Order of Ahepa are as follows: Supreme President - Peter Bell, Worcester, Mass. Supreme Vice-President - Stephen S. Scopus, New York City Supreme Secretary - C. P. Verinis, New Haven, Conn. Supreme Treasurer - Stephen L. Berdalis, San Francisco, Calif. Supreme Counsellor - Louis J. Dakas, New York City Supreme Governor - Spero A. Veris, Washington, D.C. Supreme Governor - Peter Kourmoules, Canton, Ohio Supreme Governor - Spero J. Zapotos, Memphis, Tenn. Supreme Governor, Canada - C. D. Tsipouras, Montreal, P.Q., Canada

MAYOR DEAN J. LEWIS TO BE HONORED

The three Greek communities in Rhode Island - Providence, Pawtucket and Newport - have completed arrangements to sponsor a Testimonial Dinner in honor of Mayor and Brother Dean J. Lewis of Newport.

The communities in charge of arrangements have requested the support of our District and Chapter membership and further insure the success of the affair which will be held on October 21, at the Sheraton Biltmore Hotel in Providence, commencing at 7:30 P.M.

Brother Lewis has been a familiar figure in Ahepa activities and has over the years been synonymous with the progress and achievements of our District. He has always answered the call of service and two years ago brought credit and pride to our people in his election as Mayor of the City of Newport. Our District expressed its esteem and regard for Brother Dean Lewis in presenting him the first District Leadership Award at the Pittsfield Convention of 1951.

A candidate for re-election as Mayor of the City of Newport in the forthcoming elections, Brother Lewis' Testimonial Dinner is an affair worthy of unqualified support of our District. Members desiring to attend may contact Brother Theodore Pliakas, 55 Union Street, Providence, R.I., for tickets and further information.

Elaborate Program Planned

Proudly and with welcoming arms the AHEPA and DAUGHTERS Chapters of Springfield, Massachusetts, cordially extend to each and every member an invitation to be present at the Annual District Conference to be held at 3:00 P.M. on Sunday, October 26, 1952 at the AHEPA home, 34 Chapin Terrace in Springfield. As always, these two progressive chapters, under the leadership of Ahepa President Angelo E. Bellas and Daughters' President Ann Papanotes, have joined their talents in order to provide a memorable day.

PROGRAM

Date: Sunday, October 26, 1952
Time: 3:00 - 5:00 P.M. — business; 5:00 P.M. - 7:30 — refreshments and social.
Place: Ahepa and Daughters' Home, 34 Chapin Terrace, Springfield, Mass.
Hosts: Albia Chapter, No. 85, AHEPA, and Ithome Chapter, No. 132, DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE.
Purpose: To air gripes, to formulate policy for the coming year and to foster the spirit of good-fellowship.
Penalty for non-attendance: (continued)

In the Ahepa home, the AHEPANS and DAUGHTERS, will congregate in separate halls to discuss the program for the coming year and their individual problems at the expiration of which they shall meet jointly in one hall for further discussions and exchange of views, always with the purpose in mind of solidifying the bonds of good-fellowship so prevalent in our organization. Later, a social event in the Ahepa home will mark the climax of an important occasion.

Expected to be present are the presidents, especially, and the officers of all chapters as well as the members at large, thereby assuring the success of this event. Needless to say that officers of both District Lodges will lend their resources without stint or reservation. (Continued on Page 5, Col. 2)

YANKEE news



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Yankee District No. 7
ORDER OF AHEPA
and its Auxiliaries



CONNECTICUT • PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS • RHODE ISLAND

NORWICH TO HOST 1972 DISTRICT CONVENTION JUNE 2, 3 & 4



1972 District Convention Headquarters - Sheraton Motor Inn, Norwich

The 40th Annual Convention of Yankee District No. 7 will be held on June 2, 3 & 4 at the Sheraton Motor Inn, Exit 80 Connecticut Turnpike, in Norwich, Conn. This year, all the major events, will be held at the same place, the Sheraton. Delegates and guests will not have to leave the convention hotel from the time they arrive, until it is time to leave.

Members of the Sons of Pericles and the Maids of Athena are planning to attend the convention and facilities and meeting rooms have been arranged for them. The Sheraton has a beautiful indoor swimming pool, sauna bath and other facilities.

Host for the convention will be the Norwich Order of AHEPA, Rose of New England Chapter 110 and the Daughters of Penelope, Lyandros Chapter 181. General Chairman for the convention is Brother Tony Petros and the Co-Chairman Sister Rita Alexopoulos. Programming is as follows:

FRIDAY, JUNE 2nd
4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.—Registration of Delegates — Lobby of Sheraton
9:00 P.M. to 2:00 A.M.—Greek Nine Glendi — Tickets \$7.50 per person — the spacious Ballroom of the Sheraton Motor Inn. Music for your dancing pleasure will be furnished by the Levendes Orchestra and the extra special attraction featuring the Trio Bell Cantos. For reservations call Brother James Kostelos at 887-6459. (Continued on page 2)

CHANGE OF DATE TESTIMONIAL

A testimonial dinner in honor of Supreme Governor Nicholas Zannetos is being held on May 21st, at the Valle's Steak House in Hartford. All are invited to attend. Starting time for the event, is 2:00 P.M. Tickets may be obtained at \$10.00 a person, by contacting Ernest Kopulos, 114 Ridge Crest Circle, Wethersfield, Conn. — Telephone 527-3419.

DISTRICT INITIATIONS SUCCESSFUL

Approximately 300 persons witnessed one of the finest District Initiations ever held in Yankee District No. 7, last February 27th. The New Haven AHEPA Family deserves a standing ovation for the excellent way in which they hosted the event.

Everything went off like clock work, from start to finish. Those of you who did not attend surely missed a fine time. The New Haven people displayed a fine spirit of close cooperation between the Daughters and Ahepa's, a credit to our Order.

The reception which was given after the initiations, was held at the newly acquired AHEPA Home for which the New Haven AHEPA Family can well be proud of.

Twenty-six new members were initiated into the AHEPA and the class of initiates were named the Serophin Pappas Class, in honor of Brother Serophin Pappas, a past president of the New Haven Chapter. The Daughters of Penelope also had a very successful initiation with about 150 members attending.

YANKEE news



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF YANKEE DISTRICT NO. 7 ORDER OF AHEPA AND AUXILIARIES

VOLUME XXXIII No. 3

MAY, 1981

YANKEE DISTRICT CONVENTION

Extensive plans are under way to provide one of the most exciting, thrilling and innovative convention weekends held in recent years. Under the leadership of Brother George J. Scarvelis and Sister Kathryn Lightle, Co-chairpersons of our 49th Annual District Convention, all systems are Green and GP-GO-GO!!! The entire membership of New Haven Chapter #98, Order of Ahepa and Mycale Chapter #137, Daughters of Penelope are exerting all their efforts, abilities and preferences to extend to each and everyone of you a most memorable and hospitable time. The itinerary will include the following:

FRIDAY, JUNE 5
Festivities begin on Friday afternoon at Convention Headquarters - The Sheraton Park Plaza Hotel located in downtown New Haven. An information booth will be available to provide you with information on all historic, cultural and social activities in the greater New Haven area - not to mention exposure to one of the largest indoor shopping malls in the State of Connecticut - The Chapel Mall.

Friday evening in Plaka night where you will be dining and dancing under the stars. Music, food, beverages and refreshments will be available in a setting that will put you in Athens. Music by the Greek Connection. An innovative program - election of convention officers immediately following Plaka night.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6
Saturday will bring another New Haven first - business sessions of both Lodges will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m., with the formal Convention opening to be held at a luncheon at noon. Mayor Biago DeLotto will welcome delegates to New Haven.

A program is being formulated to encourage youth participation at this convention. There will be student tickets available for all the activities of the Convention.

SHERATON—PARK PLAZA HOTEL NEW HAVEN, CONN. JUNE 5, 6, 7, 1981



GREEK CONNECTION PLUS



The Annual Convention Banquet will be held on Saturday evening at Convention headquarters preceded by a cocktail hour at 6 p.m. The Committee WILL keep a short speaking program so that you, our guests, will be able to enjoy the dancing immediately following at 9:30 p.m. Music by the Greek Connection.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7
Sunday, June 7, 1981 Church Services at St. Barbara Church, 56 Dwight St., New Haven at 10:00 a.m. Just a few short blocks from the Hotel.

Sunday morning will complete the business sessions of both Lodges and go into an early luncheon which will be held at the facility in Orange.

Business sessions to resume again at 9:00 on Sunday, to conclude unfinished business and elect the new District Lodge.

Installation of the new District Lodge to be conducted at the Farewell Luncheon immediately following elections.

The Convention Committee, Chapter Officers and members of both Lodges extend to each and everyone of you a most cordial welcome to what we feel will be a most outstanding convention. We encourage all of you to bring your family and friends to participate in all activities and programs of this Convention.

Prices for the Convention Functions are:
Friday June 5 — Plaka Night
\$7.50 Adult \$3.50 Student
Saturday June 6 — Luncheon
\$15.00 Adult \$10.00 Student
Saturday June 6 — Banquet
\$25.00 Adult \$20.00 Student
Sunday June 7 — Farewell Luncheon
\$15.00 Adult \$10.00 Student
Strip tickets available to non-delegates at \$50.00 prior to Convention. They must be bought before midnight June 4th, 1981. For ticket information contact Art Pappas at 203-624-1614.

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-Demetrius E. Tasoulas-



District 7 Fall Conference Submitted by E. Hadjimichael and Glenn Arnold



Seated: SOP SG George Antonellis, AHEPA Board of Trustees Sec. Alex Geourntas, SVP Chris Kaitson, D7 Gov. E. Vagos Hadjimichael, R4 SG and PDG Alex Boutsioulis.



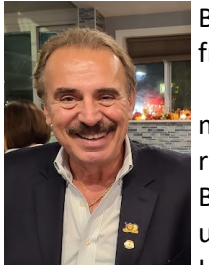
Vagos Hadjimichael

The fall 2023 Conference was held on Saturday, October 21, 2023, hosted by AHEPA Nathan Hale Chapter 58 and DOP Thoas Chapter 198, in Matthews Social Hall at St. George Cathedral in Hartford. The District Lodge thanks all members of Nathan Hale and Thoas for setting up the meeting rooms and preparing and serving the meals, breakfast, and lunch, to the participants. Also, the hand-in-hand collaboration with DOP was much appreciated. With respect, thanks are also due to Rev. Dr. George Zugravu, pastor of the Cathedral who offered the invocation to start the Conference, reflecting our creed and faith.



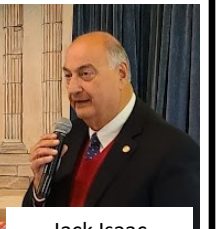
Alex Boutsioulis

69 members of Ahepa Family attended the conference and took part in spirited discussions during the day. There was Chapter representation from New Britain 117, New Haven 98, Providence 106, Newport 245, New London 250, Bridgeport 62, Norwich 110, Waterbury 48, Stamford 99, and Hartford 58. We missed seeing brothers at the Conference from Danbury 90, Norwalk 387, Danielson 418, and Pawtucket 121.

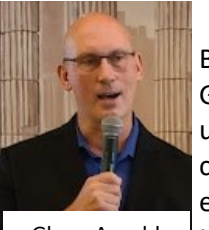


Chris Kaitson, Esq.

As tradition holds, the first part of the Conference was planned to review data, issues, and processes by which the management of the District and the Chapters is carried out; not terribly exciting narrative, but necessary for the orderly running of the organization and, hopefully, informative and goal setting. Of particular interest was the report by Alex Boutsioulis, PDG, on the D7 Educational Foundation, by Jack Isaac on the Yankee News operation, and updates on the upcoming Hellenic History Tournament by Greg Simones. After the introductions of the Ahepa D7 Governor, E. Vagos Hadjimichael, and the DOP D7 Governor, Elisa Marotta, remarks were made from the floor by the Ahepa Supreme Vice President, Chris Kaitson, Esq., who came to visit all the way from Texas.



Jack Isaac



Glenn Arnold

Following a delicious lunch catered from Elaine's Restaurant (Owned by Brother Dino Karabetsos) in Wethersfield, Brother Glenn Arnold, the Keynote Speaker, spoke to the attendees about Engaging Ahepa's Multigenerational Organization. Glenn discussed the characteristics, views, values, and strengths of each generation. He stressed the importance of understanding the people in each unique Ahepa or DOP chapter in order to choose the service projects that best align to the chapter members. In addition, Glenn discussed leadership styles of the different generations and the importance of empowering different chapter members to be leaders / co-leaders and/or team members based on their unique skills and talents. Appropriately aligning and empowering chapter members will engage members more effectively and increase retention. Also, noteworthy was the brief review of the Chapter Intervention project, recently set up by the District Lodge and lead by George Ververis. There were two interventions this year.



Greg Simones



Alex Geourntas

Beyond the business, a round table discussion among Chapter Presidents attending the Conference was held on the topic "Commitment to Outreach and Possible Inter-Chapter Cooperative Programs". The Veterans' Service Dogs program is one example of a cooperative outreach. Among other highlights was an inspirational talk Alex Geourntas, Secretary of the Board of Trustees. District 7 is grateful to the two guests from the Supreme Lodge, Chris and Alex for undertaking long trips from their respective home bases to spend the day at the Conference and commune with D7 brothers.



George Antonellis

Noteworthy also was the review by Alex Philippides of the conceptual development of the D7 Archives Project, recently set up by the Lodge, to achieve the preservation of the institutional memory of District 7. Instructive as well was the presentation by George Antonellis, Sons of Pericles Supreme Governor, about the re-activation of the SOP Chapter in New Haven, now renamed SOP Constantinople 15, after a hiatus of more than 30 years. The manner of the re-activation and the development program of the energized Chapter were recounted as an example of what other D7 AHEPA Chapters might undertake to establish SOP Chapters in their domains. The Conference ended at 3:30 pm.



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Seated: Penny Pecka, PDG, D7 Treas., Tina Smith D7 Sec., Marcella Calagias PDG, D7 Lt Gov, Elisa Marotta D7 Gov., Patty Didik Grand Governor Zone 2 / Liaison D7, Liza Pappas PGP, Katina Arnold D7 Marshal, Nitsa Tsiouras #198. **Standing:** Elaina Varunes #198 Rec Sec, Mary Aros #138, Anna Rafti #198 Treas., Terry Plumley #138, Artemis Karamanos #138 Treas., Seta Marangoudakis #198, Maria Marotta #130, Despina Tsetsos #199 Pres., Parthena Yaakob #198, Maria Tougas #198 Pres., Loukia Kazakos PDG D7, Helene Moran PDG D7, Sophia Kalaitzidis, Eleni Bouzakis #199, Priscilla Kokinis #198 Corr. Sec., Stephanie Zapatka #198, Barbara Bellas #198, Barbara Lazaridis #120, Maria Dougas PDG D9 (#51), Nancy Geourntas, D8 MOA Advisor (#130), Nikki Moutssioulis #51, Alik Sarantopoulos PDG D8 (#349), Sandi Wilcox #198 VP, Sophia Koziski D8 Lt Gov (#120). Missing from photo: Elaine Kevgas PGP, D8 Gov. (#330).

Daughters of Penelope Update on Fall Conference by District 7 Governor Elisa Marotta

As last year, the D7 Daughters of Penelope (DOP) joined forces with DOP Districts 8 and 9 for an exciting fall conference. Although the AHEPA conference was designated for District 7, we decided to unite the DOP tri-

Seizing the Opportunities of Unity
Submitted by Elisa Marotta
In our journey as a sisterhood, there's a powerful force that fuels our bonds and drives our collective strength: UNITY. It's crucial that we recognize the significance of participating in District events and understand how it reinforces the essence of our sisterhood.



We are not just individual chapters; we are part of something much larger, a network of incredible women who share a common purpose and vision. By limiting ourselves to the confines of our individual chapters, we risk missing out on the invaluable opportunities that await us. District events provide a platform for mingling, enjoying each other's company, fostering camaraderie, and exchanging ideas and fellowship. It's in these shared experiences that our true enthusiasm flourishes.

When we come together at district events, we create a tapestry of collective knowledge, passion, and inspiration. We learn from one another, draw strength from our unity, and gain fresh perspectives that can be transformative. In these moments, we are not just chapters; we are one sisterhood, reinforcing the foundation upon which our organization was built.

I strongly encourage all members to attend conventions and conferences. They are not merely events; they are symbols of our commitment to our sisterhood. Every chapter's presence is essential, for it ensures that chapter officers and members are not only informed, but also aligned with the changes and initiatives set forth for this year. By attending, you are not only representing your chapter, but you're becoming a part of a larger movement. You're becoming a bridge between the unique experiences and traditions of your chapter and the shared vision of our entire sisterhood. You are a vital link in the chain that unites us and propels us forward.

Let's embrace the spirit of unity and seize this opportunity to celebrate our sisterhood. Together, we are stronger. Together, we flourish. Together, we are unstoppable. I look forward to seeing you all at conferences and conventions, and I am excited to witness the magic that happens when we come together as one.

districts because coming together in a larger group holds a special value to our small districts. Witnessing the camaraderie and connection among the members was gratifying. The shared sisterhood, meeting members we already know, and making new connections, all add to the charm of a joint event.

I'd like to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone involved in the fall conference's success. Thank you to the Hartford AHEPA brothers and DOP sisters for their warm hospitality, AHEPA 58 for food arrangements, and Brother Tony Kazakos for his bountiful breakfast. Special thanks to Sister Anna Rafti and her team for their excellent venue preparation. Your dedication is truly appreciated, even if not all contributions can be explicitly mentioned. Your commitment to our organization is invaluable. We had the pleasure of awarding the District 7 Penelope of the Year Award to Despina Tsetsos and the District 7 Estia Award to Stephanie Zapatka. These recognitions were well deserved, and we congratulate them with enthusiasm!

Glenn Arnold presented on an inspiring topic, "Understanding and Engaging AHEPA's and DOP's Multi-generational Organizations for Intergenerational Effectiveness". The focus was not just about recruiting new members, but also about involving all members and giving them a sense of ownership and purpose. Every generation thrives on being part of something bigger and working for a common purpose within an organization.

The team building activity was a delightful and dynamic experience! Participants were provided with sheets of paper containing questions and answers related to DOP topics. Each person received either a question or an answer, and the challenge was to find the corresponding match. Once the match was made, participants engaged in a conversation with the person holding the complementary question or answer. As everyone successively found their matches, individuals were encouraged to share their Q&A pairs and discuss what they learned about each other. The activity created an open and engaging atmosphere, and it was wonderful to see everyone opening up and connecting.



Estia of the Year
Stephanie Zapatka

Penelope of the Year
Despina Tsetsos



SALUTATIONS

AHEPA DISTRICT SEVEN LODGE

<https://ahepadistrict7.org>

Greetings to all the D7 Chapters and best wishes for continued success

- E. Vagos Hadjimichael – Governor
- John Fakis – Lt. Governor
- Gregory C. Simones, PDG – Secretary
- John Melonopoulos, PDG – Treasurer
- George Ververis – Warden
- Alexander Philippides – Marshal
- Gregory Stamos, PSC Athletic Director
- Alex Boutsioulis – Region 4 Supreme Governor

Celebrating our 93rd Year



AHEPA

**Southeastern Connecticut
Winthrop Chapter 250**

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NEWPORT 245

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Christa Haveles
Sandra Johnson
Christina Jolliff
Brittany Laraia
Christina Menounos
Nikitoula Menounos



Greg Stamos, Spartan warrior (Leonidas?)
Evangelos Hadjimichael, Ilias Tomazos

District 7 Visits UCONN
Submitted by Gregory Stamos, PSC
In furtherance of its support of the Hellenic Society Paideia since its founding on the University of Connecticut campus at Storrs, Connecticut four decades ago, members of AHEPA's Yankee District 7 visited Paideia on Saturday, October 7th.

The goal of strengthening the collaborative goals of AHEPA and Paideia in preserving Hellenic Culture was reached after a day of meetings and tours of the Paideia Campus.

The tone of the day was set with a morning Divine Liturgy at the Three Hierarchs Chapel, the first and only Greek Orthodox Chapel on a college campus. Paideia's Executive Director Ilias Tomazos then lead the AHEPA Delegation on a tour of the Paideia Campus, featuring the marble amphitheater fashioned with the original architectural plans of Epidaurus, and the recently completed 1,900 square foot Spartan Museum.

The agenda concluded with a discussion of Paideia's mission, including accredited classes on Hellenic Culture and Modern Greek, students' excursions to Greece for college credits and the perpetuation of Hellenic Culture. As education, personal advancement and the perpetuation of Hellenic Culture are pillars of AHEPA's mission as well, the discussion was moderated by Yankee District 7's District Governor Dr. Evangelos Hadjimichael and the day's Chairman, Attorney Gregory Stamos.

District Governor Hadjimichael praised the programs and good deeds of Paideia and the leadership of Professor Tomazos, "Ilias' vision in establishing this beacon of Hellenism, in founding a place of worship where our Greek Orthodox students can commune together, is as beautiful as the glistening marble of the Amphitheater".



An AHEPAN mentor told me, "You get out of AHEPA what you put into it".
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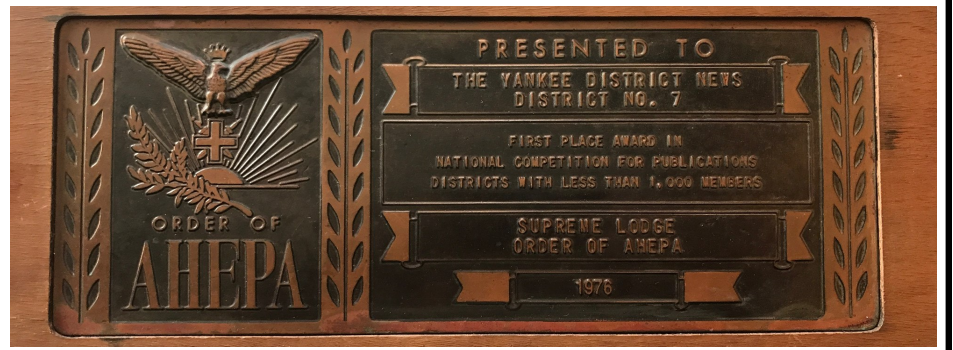
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♥ **The Yankee District News has a Long History of Excellence** ♥

Our sincere gratitude to George Scarveles for sharing a picture of this plaque. It reads: "First place award in National Competition for publications - Districts with less than 1,000 members." From the Supreme Lodge, 1976.

Joan and George Scarveles were Editor and Business Manager in 1976.

Fast forward to July 25, 2023: The National Publication committee awarded the Yankee News 1st place in the District Hardcopy Publication competition again this year! AND Chapter 110, Norwich, CT received 2nd place for their chapter's electronic publication. Congratulations to District 7's own "Rose of New England"!

Chapter 110 Norwich News

Submitted by Tony Petros
Pictures by Anna-Helene Grossomanides

Our chapter hosted our 34th Annual Picnic for the residents of our 3 buildings on Saturday, August 26th. There were approximately 75 residents and 15 AHEPA volunteers present. George Maistrelis was the chef who cooked hot dogs and hamburgers. We supplied beverages and hosted a Mister Softee® ice cream truck!

In addition, this year we arranged for a special presentation by Tom Callinan, an official state troubadour who sang a number of ballads for the residents. Many sang along.

We thank all the volunteers who helped us at the picnic: Chris Volkanos, George Maistrelis, Sean Ryan, Peter Patsouris, Steve Patsouris, Tony Petros, Heidi Petros, Democles Angelopoulos, Joanne Trainor, Anna-Helene and John Grossomanides, George Grossomanides,

George Ververis, Ernie Pool, Dave and Lynn Toolan, Joe Hominski, Maria Valkanos, and Patty Angelopoulos.



Ernie Pool and George Ververis Jr.



Lynn Toolan, Anna-Helene Grossomanides, Heidi Petros, Joanne Trainor, Paula Angelopoulos and Maria Valkanos.



Prof. Peter Patsouris, Steve Patsouris, George Grossomanides and Joe Hominski.



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Waterbury AHEPA Chapter 48 News Submitted by Alex Boutsoulis

Waterbury AHEPA Chapter 48 had a very successful Nite at the Races fundraiser on Saturday March 11, 2023. At a chapter meeting afterwards, the Chapter 48 brothers decided to donate approximately 50% of the fund-raising proceeds to the Yankee District 7 AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors Fund. This generous donation of \$3,000 will now allow Yankee District 7 to meet the \$6000 requirement to sponsor and train a service dog for a US military veteran.

The D7 Lodge recommended to have the future service dog to be named by Waterbury Chapter 48. The brothers of Chapter 48 selected the dog to be named "Judge" in honor of the current New York Yankee team captain Aaron Judge.

Waterbury Chapter 48 also decided to donate \$500 to the annual Waterbury Republican Newspaper Campership Fund. This donation allowed an underprivileged child to have a fun week at a summer camp in Litchfield County.

Brother George Zikos celebrated his 107th birthday June 16, 2023 with his friends and relatives at his home in Middlebury, CT. Brother George, after immigrating to the USA from Greece, had his initiation on March 4, 1958 in Morrison, New Jersey and has now been an Ahepan for over 65 years. George and his wife Calliope moved to his daughter's Efterpy Velezis's home in Middlebury CT during the 1980's after he retired as a tailor. George and Calliope were married over 67 years when Calliope passed away in 2006. George has been active member of AHEPA Chapter 48 in Waterbury, CT since his arrival to Constitution state. Until just recently, George attended Church and many AHEPA functions regularly.

At his birthday party, Brother George gave a moving speech in both Greek and English. Over 150 guests from many different states came to help him celebrate.



Arthur Velezis, George Zikos, Efterpy Velezis and George Velezis. Arthur and George are George Zikos's grandsons; both are long-time Ahepans also.



George Zikos and family

New London Chapter 250 News Submitted by John Fakis

On August 21st Winthrop Chapter 250 held its 5th annual Lobster Bake. The Lobster Bake is a much loved chapter tradition each summer. Members and their families



front: Greg Stamos, Demetrius Tasoulas, Alex Boutsoulis, Terry Mitchell, George Scarveles. Back: Jack Isaac, Giovanni Papagiopoulos, Manny Cosmas, John Fakis, Andy Aros, Greg Simones, and Adam Rand.

were treated to a delicious appetizer table and lobster dinner with steamers, salad, corn on the cob, potatoes, and assorted delicacies for dessert. The event was held at the Niantic Yacht Club in Niantic, CT. There was a record crowd of 59 brothers and their spouses including AHEPA family members Supreme Governor Alex Boutsoulis and Grand Governor Marianne Boutsoulis from Waterbury; Andy and Mary Aros and PDG's Jack and Karen Isaac from New Britain; PDG George Scarveles, District Athletic Advisor Greg Stamos, Scholarship Chairman Manny Cosmas, and Sons of Pericles member Giovanni Panagiopoulos from New Haven. It was a gorgeous evening with a beautiful scenic view of Niantic Bay, and everyone had a great time.

On Monday October 16, three new members were initiated into Winthrop Chapter 250. The new initiates were Charles Ambulos, James Scarles, and John Pavlakis. Eighteen Ahepans were in attendance for the initiation. District 7 Lt. Governor John Fakis and PDG Demetrius Tasoulas conducted the initiation. The brothers enjoyed a delicious "Evangelia" Greek chicken dinner made by master chefs Joe Josephides, George Mitchell, and Jimmy Maistros prior to the meeting.

Our continued support of the AHEPA New London Foundation is another successful program made possible through the AHEPA Senior Living Board. \$20,000 in grants was presented in 2023 to 17 charitable organizations in the New London community. The grants included scholarships to young deserving seniors of 13 local high schools. Grants were also provided to the Yankee News, AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors and Paidea Society. Winthrop 250 has provided over \$290,000 in AHEPA housing foundation grants to local charitable organizations and high schools since 1998.



Initiation of John Pavlakis, Charlie Ambulos, and James Scarles with Lt. Gov. John Fakis.

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Daughters of Penelope Chapter 41, Bridgeport News

Submitted by Helen Yeotsas and Vicky Andriotis

Our Hermes Chapter 41 started the year with regular monthly meetings where we discussed our plans for the new year. September was a great meeting to discuss how we wrapped up the prior year, with a Mother's Day raffle and "Kindness Bags" we donated to local homeless. (More about Kindness Bags below!)

In October we had our "Think Pink, Purple and Blue" meeting where we highlighted Breast Cancer Awareness Month, as well as Domestic Violence and Anti-Bullying Awareness months. We donated to a local organization, SWIM Across the Sound, that does much for Breast Cancer in the community. In particular, they provide mammograms for women who can't afford them and this is something we have donated to for many years. We also donated to the Go Fund Me page of one of our dear Sister's family members, as she is battling cancer. We passed out flyers and little items that were given to us by a local Cancer Center. Our chapter has a history of donating blue hats to "Hats Not Hate", which is an anti-bullying cause, and we hope to continue this in the coming year via our Knitting Club.

We are going to continue our Acts of Kindness drives, with our first being a drive for individually wrapped snacks, cereal and granola bars, cookies, peanut butter crackers, fruit snacks, water, new socks and hand knit hats as well. We call these "Kindness Bags". We will assemble our bags and are donating them to a local women's crisis center, The Center for Family Justice in Bridgeport, CT. Plans will be made for the next drive soon!

We started our Christmas Planter raffle, which is a fundraiser to help us support the philanthropic projects we love doing. We are planning to repeat our Christmas food basket project for local families in need. These baskets have everything in them for a great holiday meal, and also other staples a family can use. This year we have 14 families to make baskets for.

We are looking forward to having more Acts of Kindness drives, a coffee hour at our church where we hope to highlight the Daughters' 94th anniversary, and much more to come in the upcoming year.



Theodora Fatibene, Ioanna Nictas, Kathy Yiannoulis, Maria Fatibene, Anna Christopoulos, Alexis Koulouris & Evelyn Balamaci

Follow us on Facebook- [Daughters of Penelope Bridgeport "Hermes" Chapter 41, District 7](#) or on Instagram [@dopchapter4141](#).

Chapter 106, Cranston News

Submitted by

Mario Zaharioudakis

2023 has been a

strong year for the Sophocles Chapter in Cranston, RI. First and foremost we would like to congratulate George



Coclin on his election as president of chapter. George has been a member of our brotherhood since 1991. George is married with two children, of which his son Constantine, is also an Ahepan. We are excited to see the chapter progression under his leadership. A special "Thank You" is also necessary for our outgoing President Lakis Andriotis, who has led the chapter over the past several years and to this day cooks at almost every meeting. We wish him some relaxation time now that he is relieved from his presidential duties (but we still expect him to help with cooking).

On Tuesday September 26th, we had the initiation of our **10 newest members** into our chapter, a record number compared to previous years. Our new members are both 'new' and 'returning' to the general Rhode Island area. We look forward to engaging further with them over the coming months and we wish them a productive contribution to the chapter.

Our Church of Annunciation organized its annual festival in September in which many brothers volunteered. The Festival was a great success, achieving a record number of people, despite some rain on Sunday, and we would like to thank all of our brothers who volunteered and supported it as well as all guests that came.

On Saturday December 9th, together with Annunciation Church and the Philoptochos Society, we are organizing our **Annual Christmas Dinner**, a fully catered event at our very own Demetrakas Hall in which we will also be inviting our brothers from the Pawtucket and Newport AHEPA chapters. We look forward to seeing everyone from the community there.



Andreas Andreopoulos, James Andriotis, Arthur Pappas, Demetrios Petrou, Sen Louis Raptakis, Constanine Rougas, George Scagos, Andrew Taxiarchos, George Moragemos, Alexi Nikolaides, Stylianos Triantafyllou, Aristotelis Tsonis, Steve Sterpis, Stelios Trikoulis, Anthony George, Dimitrios Markos, Evan Andrikosloanni De gaitas, Mario Zaharioudakis, Dean Perdikakis, Nektarios Arsenis, Chris Lambros, Costas Grammos, John Vanikiotis, Frank Vasiliadis, Michael Vezeridis, Lakis Andriotis, Dr George Coclin, Haralambos Dafoulas, Marcos Fountoulakis, James Harritos, Apostolos Kallis, Arthur Kazianis, Nicholas Lambros, Nicholas D Lambros, Peter Manis, Theofanis Markos, Charles Xynellis, Jason Xynellis, Constantin Coclin

"We applaud AHEPA's first century of important contributions to our community, our nation and our world."

~
Angie and Ted Augustinos



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Chapter 98 New Haven News

Submitted by George Scarveles

The AHEPA Chapter 98 & Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church Charity Golf Outing was a huge success. Partnering with our church was a blessing, the hard work by Chairmen Jimmy Bits and his AHEPA Chapter 98 golf committee has proven to be a winning combination. After witnessing the resilience of a hundred dedicated golf players taking on the fierce wind and rain of the day, I now know what it means when they say, don't get a golf player "teed off". By the way: no one won the \$10,000 13th hole-in-one challenge that was being watched by Brothers Peter Iosifidis and Augoustis (Gus) Fifis.

Chapter 98 is proud to have had a visitation from AHEPA Supreme President Savas Tsvicos!



"The First Foursome" Michael Suffredini, Kristen Bitzonis, Angela Colarossi and George Scarveles. Missing from photo: George Antonellis.



"The Chairman's Foursome" Pete Recevicius, Nick Getek, Jimmy Bitz and Nick Sentementes.

Chapter 115, New Britain News

Submitted by Andrew Aros & Stamatis Kounaris

The New Britain AHEPA held its 5th New Britain Hellenic Open Golf



Stamatis (Ike) Kounaris, Lou and Joanne Lemios, Kosta Tsakopoulos, Paul Tsakopoulos, Fonda Dimopoulos, 117 Pres. Thomas Morikis, and Arch. Spyridon Chatzis.

Tournament on September 17th at Stanley Golf Course in New Britain. At 1pm the Very Rev. Archimandrite Spyridon Chatzis said a short prayer and wished the 44 players good luck! This golf tournament owes its success to its Co-Chairmen Chapter Corr. Secretary Stamatis (Ike) Kounaris and Mathew Golfin. The dormmate was a member team hitting the best ball. Their efforts resulted with everyone having a great time. The Hole-In-One contest prize was a Ford Mustang but it went unclaimed. At the conclusion of the round of golf, players and guests enjoyed a grand banquet the on Back Nine Tavern, with the accompaniment of a rembetiks band with no less than three bouzoukia.

The outing however was not without controversy. Archimandrite (and brother Ahepan) Spyridon claimed to have low score, sinking 18 hole-in-ones using just his putter. When questioned about his miraculous score Father humbly stated, "it is not cheating if God wills it." The other low score winners were Mathew Golfin's foursome with 13 under par. The longest drive and closest to the pin prizes were both won by Team Koutouvides, who proved to be multi-talented. They also won the "Best Zembeikiko Unaided by Tsipouro" contest. The profits from the event will be used to support the various activities of the Hellenic Youth Groups that are part of the St. George Community of New Britain.



SOP SG George Antonelli Jr., Eugene Esares, Peter Gekas, Honoree, #98 Pres. George Scarveles, PSG, Honoree #98 Treas. George K. Antonellis, AHEPA SG Savas C. Tivicos, Honoree PSC Gregory Stamos, Honoree James Bitzonis, D7 Gov. Evangelos Hadjimichael, Nick Loussides, Augoustis Fifis, Peter Iosifidis, Gary Andrews. Missing: Honoree #98 Sec. James Benas.

The 2023-24 Chapter 98 officers:

President : George Scarveles, PSG; Vice President: Emanuel Cosmas; Secretary: James Benas; Treasurer: George Antonellis; Cor. Sec: Gregory Stamos, PSC.



DOP Chapter 181, Norwich News

Submitted by Elisa Marotta

On September 28 I spent the day helping out our hard-working sisters of the Lysandros Chapter at the Holy Trinity Church Greek festival in Norwich. After not having a festival for three years it was clear they were happy to be back, helping out and enjoying their sisterhood!

Anna-Helene Grossomanides PGP, D7 Advisor is pictured helping other hard-working festival volunteers make loukoumades(top), and pictured with Elisa Marotta, D7 Governor, and Maria Valkanos, Chapter 181 President (bottom).



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Daughters of Penelope Chapter 198, Hartford News

Submitted by Elaine Melonopoulos

Our Chapter is growing and thriving under the wonderful leadership of Sister Maria Tougas and her dedicated board of interested and hardworking women. Our meetings have been well attended and many warm friendships have grown from our sisterhood.

Congratulations to Stephanie Poly Zaptaka who was recognized and honored with the Estia Award at the recent D7 Fall Conference held at St. George Cathedral, Hartford, CT!

Scholarship chair, Stephanie Zapatka's great idea for our Scholarship fundraiser this year – "My Big Fat Greek Life" tee shirts which she created. Sales were brisk and we happily report that the sale was successful with the adult sizes quickly sold out! We will be re-ordering these and will also include children's sizes. Congratulations Stephanie...another successful fundraiser...

keep those creative ideas coming !

Congratulations to our president Maria Tougas on the marriage of her daughter Kristina to Tony Angel Rinaldi at St Gregory's Orthodox Church in Wappinger Falls, NY last September. Kristina is also the granddaughter of



Thoas Chapter 198 Corr. Secretary Priscilla Kokinis and longtime Ahepan, Peter Kokinis. Warm wishes to the bride, the groom, and their families.

We continue to work alongside our brother Ahepans who serve at South Park Inn as part of their commitment to "Feeding the Hungry". All who have been a part of this project under the supervision of Kevin Ward have reported that they have found this to be a rewarding effort. Along with serving meals we often also provide sweets which are always a big hit for the residents of the shelter. George and Barbara Bellas are pictured here with Priscilla Kokinis.



Along with our brother Ahepans we enjoyed a Thanksgiving Feast at our AHEPA Room at the Nathan Hale Senior Center in Wethersfield. It was an evening filled with friendship and fun. We also drew names from the AHEPA raffle and many winners were in attendance which made for more excitement for the evening.



We will be celebrating Founders Day Sunday, November 19 at St. George Cathedral with an Artoklasia for our members and hosting a refreshment table at the social hour following Divine Liturgy. Included will be a Photo of our Founder, Alexandra Apostolides Sonenfeld, along with literature and information regarding the DOP and our chapter.



Daughters of Penelope Chapter 368, Danielson News

Submitted by Nikitoula Menounos
Pictures by Elisa Marotta

On September 21, the Asteria chapter hosted a trunk show. The show featured items from a Greek company called *Portoula* which features Greek honey, jewelry and scarves. The two hour event was supported by the community and the District DOP. Everyone enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and wine and the fundraiser was very successful!



The Asteria Chapter is also celebrating its 40th anniversary. On Sunday, December 3, from 2-4 pm we will have a gathering with hors d'oeuvres and desserts, location to be determined.



**Daughters of Penelope
Yankee District Lodge #7**

District Governor - Elisa Marotta

Lt. Governor - Marcella Calagias

Secretary - Christina Smith

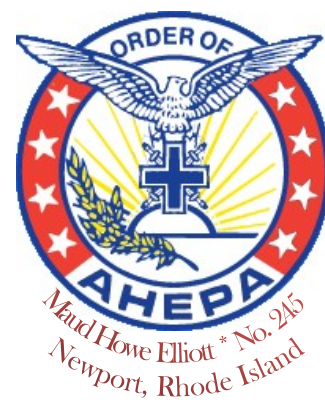
Treasurer - Penny Pecka, PDG

Marshal - Katina Arnold

District Advisor - Anna-Helene Grossomanides, PDG

Grand Governor - Patty Didik

*Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy,
Civic Responsibility,
Family and Individual Excellence*



**Maud Howe Elliott
Chapter No. 245**

Newport, RI

*founded
November 24, 1929*

Chapter 245 Newport News Submitted by Babis Ntaskas

The Maud Howe Elliott Chapter 245 of Newport, RI, founded on November 24, 1929, commenced its 94th year with a busy Fall season. In September, a "Farewell to Summer 2023" meeting was hosted by Komes Rozes at his world famous Flo's Clam Shack at First (Easton's) Beach, Newport, RI where many brothers attended and enjoyed delicacies from the sea and cold beverages as they toasted to Jimmy Buffet, who coincidentally made his last public appearance earlier in the year at a venue in Portsmouth, RI down the street from Bro. Rozes' other Flo's Clam Shack location. For the Ahepan snowbirds out there, look for Bro. Rozes' new location coming this winter in Naples, FL. Here's a photo of the brothers in attendance enjoying some laughs topside at Flo's.



That same evening Chapter 245 members were joined by Bro. Billy Caragianis' Newport AHEPA Mascot, Benjamin (pictured here), who enjoyed the evening gazing into the sunset over the beach with his Corona (although he indicated he preferred a Mythos).



In October, the chapter's regular meeting was hosted by Bro. Anthony Spiratos at the Sea View Villa in Middletown, RI overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. The brothers had a productive meeting and discussed various

projects and events for the balance of the year as they enjoyed a panoramic view of Newport's famous Cliff Walk from the start at The Chandler on Memorial Boulevard all the way to the end at Doris Duke's Rough Point mansion.



The Newport chapter was also excited to help sponsor the opening night of the 'Parthenon on Aluminum Exhibit' at the Maliotis Center in Brookline, MA opening night on Wednesday, October 18, 2023. The exhibit was curated by Newport community member Peter Yalanis in conjunction with The American Committee for the Reunification of the Parthenon Sculptures based in Fort Lauderdale, FL. AHEPA chapter 245 has donated to and supports this worthy endeavor which aligns with AHEPA's goal to promote and preserve Hellenism!



A TOURING EXHIBITION WITH PHOTOGRAPHY BY PETER YALANIS

MALIOTIS CULTURAL CENTER
OCTOBER 18, 2023 - NOVEMBER 30, 2023
Featuring 15 stunning photos taken from inside the Parthenon, as part of the ACRPS' 2005 'All Sides of the Parthenon' project.

The chapter also participated in 1) the AHEPA Excursion to the Hellenic Studies Center at the University of Connecticut at Storrs, CT; 2) the Yankee District 7 Fall Conference hosted by the Hartford AHEPA and DOP Chapters in October; 3) is planning to host a special visitation from both the AHEPA Executive Director and the Supreme President at Petros Kyriakides' Newport Wyndham Resort; 4) is coordinating a Rhode Island-wide AHEPA Christmas Party in conjunction with Sophocles Chapter 106, Providence/Cranston, RI and Chapter 121, Pawtucket, RI. The officers of Maud Howe Elliott Chapter 245 are Leondis Panteleos (President), Thanasis Stefanopoulos (Treasurer), Charalampos Ntaskas (Secretary) and Anthony Spiratos (Vice President).



DOP Chapter 138, New Britain News
Submitted by Irene Sklavouris
The last several months have been busy for the Eretria Chapter. We began

with a dinner meeting at **Charlie's Restaurant** in East Hartford, the family business of one of our members. We had spectacular food and a business meeting in a private room set up just for us. We also had a dinner at **JDs Restaurant** in Southington, also a family business of a member. We were treated to scrumptious apps before our meal and loved the atmosphere. We then initiated two new members into our chapter! Also, we had the pleasure of having **D7 Gov. Elisa Marotta** visit our September meeting. During the meeting she discussed the *Power of We*, the Meals on Wheels program, the upcoming conference, current happenings at other chapters, and more. We learned a lot from her. Gov. Marotta ended up joining us at our craft beer tasting event in October, held at **5 Churches Brewing** (yes, a member's family business. See a pattern?) in New Britain. We enjoyed a raffle, flights of beer, nachos, and a pizza buffet. Also in October, three members attended the **Fall Conference**. It fell on the same day as our church **Gyro Day** where other members committed to working, so more will participate in the next one.

In November we had our own **Salute to Veterans**. We made flags, wrote veterans' names on them, then displayed them on the Community Board. Many viewed them and discovered friends were veterans they didn't realize had served. We thank them for their service. All of the proceeds were donated to a local Veteran's Program.



Our chapter joins with the Meriden chapter to celebrate Daughters of Penelope **Founder's Day**. This is an annual tradition where we have an artoclasia, host fellowship coffee after church services, and provide historical and current information about the organization to others. Our current project



is making or purchasing festive **wreaths and centerpieces** to be raffled off before Christmas. And **Congratulations!** to Sister Donna and Brother George Rados on celebrating their **50th Wedding Anniversary!!** We look forward to the **AHEPA Family Christmas Party** on the 16th and wish everyone a joyous and warm Christmas season and new year.

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from
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the Brothers of
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CHAPTER No. 106
Providence, Rhode Island

~*~
With Compliments of
Jack Isaac
Past Supreme Governor,
Region 4
&
Karen Isaac
Daughters of Penelope
Past Governor, District 7
~*~

The next Yankee News deadline for submissions is March 24, 2024 to: YankeeD7News@AOL.com.

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Calendar of District 7 Upcoming Events

December 3, 2023 - DOP Danielson Chapter 368 40th Anniversary
December 9, 2023 - Sophocles 106 Christmas Party With Annunciation Church at Demetrakas Hall, Cranston, RI
December 16, 2023 - Chapter 117 Annual AHEPA Family Christmas Party St George Church Hellenic Center, New Britain, Connecticut
December 29, 2023 - Annual AHEPA Chapter 58 Blood Drive, Hartford
January 7 - D7 DOP Online Membership Workshop
January 15, 2024 - Penelope Scroll Article Deadline
February 17 2024 - Chapter 58 Valentine's Dance St George Cathedral, Hartford, CT
March 10 & 11, 2024- A Taste of Greece, St Barbara Church, Orange, CT
March 24, 2024 - May Yankee News Deadline
June 15, 2024 - D7 AHEPA Family Convention Holy Trinity Church, Waterbury, CT
June 21, 2024 - Chapter 58 Awards Night, Hartford, CT
July 19, 20 & 21, 2024 - Treasures N' Junque, St Barbara, Orange, CT
July 21 thru 27, 2024 - The AHEPA Family Supreme Convention, Larnaca, Cyprus
Aug 30 to Sept 2, 2024 - Odyssey Greek Festival, St Barbara, Orange, CT



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To our
AHEPA family:
Wishing you
all a successful
& productive year.

Daughters
of Penelope
Thoas 198
"WARRIORS"
Hartford, CT

