



Yankee News



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



September 2023

Welcome your Newly Elected AHEPA Family Officers!

Savas Tsvicos Elected AHEPA Supreme President.

Those elected to the Grand Lodge are: President Emmanuel Conostas, Supreme VP E. Chris Kaitson, Supreme Secretary Dr. Zenon Christodoulou, Supreme Treasurer Demetrios Kirkiles, and Supreme Counselor Themistocles Frangos. The Supreme Governors are: Region I: Kostas G. Sofikits; Region II: Georgio F. Comninos; Region III: Dimitri Rozanitis; **Region IV: Alexander Boutsoulis**; Region V: John Karipides; Region VI: George George; Region VII: Marshall A. Monsell, III; Region VIII: Wynn Storton; and Region X: Basilio Petkidis. Alex Geourtas earned re-election, and Louis Atsavas election, to the AHEPA Board of Trustees. Nicholas A. Karacostas, PSP, earned re-election as Chairman of the Board.



The newly elected Daughters of Penelope Grand President is Marianthi Treppiedi.

Those elected to the Daughters of Penelope Grand Lodge are: Grand Vice President Margaret Dritsas; Grand Secretary Antoinette M. Zachariades; Grand Treasurer Gretchen Holtsinger; **Grand Governor Zone I Marianne Boutsoulis**; Grand Governor Zone II Patty Didik; Grand Governor Zone III Christie Finch; Grand Governor Zone IV Linda Belba; Grand Governor Zone V Xanthe Vafooulou; and Grand Advisor to the Maids of Athena Effie Kirkiles.



AHEPA Family Elections

The organizations that comprise the AHEPA Family also held elections. Marianthi Treppiedi was elected Daughters of Penelope Grand President, Alec Economakis was elected Sons of Pericles Supreme President, and Ally Tsenekos was elected Maids of Athena Grand President.



May 2023 District Convention Attendees

Your District 7 AHEPA Lodge Officers
Warden
Alexander Philippides,
Secretary Greg Simones,
D7 Governor
E. Vagos Hadjimichael,
Lt. Governor, John Fakis,
Treasurer
John Melonopoulos,
(not pictured:
Athletic Director,
Gregory Stamos)



District 7 AHEPA Governor
E. Vagos Hadjimichael



District 7 Daughters of Penelope
Governor Elisa Marotta



Your District 7 Daughters of Penelope Lodge Officers
Zone 1 Grand Governor
Marianne Boutsoulis,
Lt Governor Marella Calagias,
Governor Elisa Marotta,
Secretary Christina Smith,
Advisor
Anna-Helene Grossomanides
(not pictured:
Treasurer Penny Pecka &
Marshal Katina Arnold)



YANKEE DISTRICT 7 FALL CONFERENCE October 21, 2023



Hosted by AHEPA Nathan Hale, Chapter 58 & Daughters Of Penelope, Thoas Chapter 198

Matthews Social Hall, St. George Cathedral - 433 Fairfield Ave, Hartford, CT 06114

Conference Participation Fee: \$25, pd on site (Includes Registration, Breakfast & Lunch)

For info and chapter participation write to D7 Lodge Secretary Greg Simones, PDG, at pdgahepad7@gmail.com



A MESSAGE FROM THE AHEPA D7 GOVERNOR

Dear Brothers of Yankee District 7, Greetings.

We are at the threshold of the fall season of 2023. The passage of time is inevitable. The secret of a happy life is to enjoy it, as it marks our accomplishment of the past and calls forth our energies to plan the future. First, the recent past. Following the District Convention in Newport, RI, on May 6, 2023, and the election of District 7 Lodge members for 2023-2024, we are looking forward to enjoying another year of AHEPA fellowship and progress. At the Convention, in addition

to reviewing the affairs of D7, we enjoyed presentations from Dr. Timothy Patitsas on the role and status of the Hellenic College Holy Cross School of Theology, and from Dr. Kathrine Schwab on her research on the original colors and appearance of the Parthenon statues. At the Convention banquet, we enjoyed the music of Yanni Pandelides, a member of the Convention host Chapter, Newport 245, and his band.

This year, AHEPA has resumed the Day on the Capitol Hill annual event, following a hiatus of three years caused by COVID-19. Members of the Supreme Lodge, District Governors, and other AHEPA members, participated in this year's visit to the Hill, June 14-15, 2023. For two days, we had the opportunity to connect with Congress members and affirm AHEPA's position as a major voice of the Hellenic Diaspora in support of Greek interests in eastern Mediterranean. NJ Senator Robert Menendez, NY congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis, and US ambassador to Greece George J. Tsunis greeted the AHEPA delegates. The Congressional group that carries the flag for Hellenic interests is the Congressional Hellenic Caucus, consisting currently of ninety-two members of the House of Representatives. Among the main objectives of our visit on the Hill was to entice additional Congressional legislators to join the Hellenic Caucus.

I was glad to participate in several recent District activities, as well. I joined members of the host Chapter Norwich 110 to welcome SP Jimmy Kokotas, on May 29. Following a reception and dinner, brother Kokotas presented commemorative awards to the mayor of Norwich, and to brothers Tony Petros and Nicholas Nikas. On June 13, we celebrated the initiation of five new Ahepans into the Nathan Hale Chapter 58, of Hartford, and on June 25, at the annual District College Scholarship awards banquet, we were proud to name eighteen college students as AHEPA Scholarship recipients. Special Thanks to the D7 Education Foundation for managing the investment fund that is the source of the scholarships.

And now, the future. May we continue to hear about your activities over this year, either in person at meetings, or on the pages of Yankee News, or the D7 website at ahepadistrict7.org. For updating your Chapter's presence on the D7 website, please forward to me updated materials. Also, the importance of each Chapter sponsoring a team of young HS age students to participate in the Hellenic History Tournament (HHT) cannot be exaggerated. This year the HHT will take place on November 18 at its regular venue, the Saint Barbara Church, Orange, CT. Details and forms relevant to participation in the HHT are posted and can be downloaded from the D7 website. Finally, two long-range projects that D7 is embarking on, this year.

(a) The Archives of D7. There is a need to establish archival material for our District. Materials from all Chapters in D7, with district-wide relevance, will be collected and curated in one of the Housing facilities of New London Chapter 250. The point persons to lead the effort will be the Warden for District 7, brother Alexandros Philippides from the Newport Chapter 245, teaming with brother Demetrius Tasoulas, PDG, from Chapter 250, vice-president of the Chapter's Housing Foundation. The idea for establishing an archival process for D7 has been discussed in the past. The time has finally come to undertake now the concrete steps that the project's fulfillment requires, and so set the stage for the future.

(b) Chapter Intervention. An appointed position of a Lodge roving ambassador to troubleshoot prevailing adverse conditions in Chapters with self-diagnosed chronic problems has been established. At the invitation of those Chapters, the dedicated troubleshooter will visit and confer with the membership of each, under the auspices of the District Lodge, identify outstanding issues, and report suggested intervention procedures. We are glad to announce that Brother John Ververis past secretary of Chapter 110 has agreed to lead the Chapter Intervention project.

Sincere wishes to all brothers for good health and prosperity in the months ahead.

E. Vagos Hadjimichael



A MESSAGE FROM THE DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE D7 GOVERNOR

Dear Sisters,

During the Yankee District 7 AHEPA Family Convention in Newport, RI, a new chapter unfolded as the 2023-2024 Daughters of Penelope (DOP) District 7 Lodge officers were elected. Reflecting on this past administrative year, collaborating with my D7 sisters has been an honor. I'm grateful to have been given the opportunity to serve you again. Let's extend congratulations to the recently elected officers of both the Yankee District 7 AHEPA and DOP Lodges (their names are provided on the last page).

During the 2023 Supreme Convention in Las Vegas, the Daughters of Penelope delegates elected Marianthi Treppiedi as our Grand President. Last year, she championed the "3 I's": Invite, Involve, and Invest, alongside the theme of The Power of WE. These themes have borne remarkable results. I'm delighted to share that all DOP districts have experienced membership growth. In two consecutive years, membership increased by over a thousand members, a collective effort where sisters invited sisters. We've achieved even more with the initiation of 5 new chapters (#449 Schenectady, NY; #450 Greece; #451 Ocean City, MD; #452 Bavaria, Germany; #453 Cyprus) and the reactivation of two chapters (#39 Binghamton, NY; #149 Tucson AZ).

Guided by Grand president Marianthi's vision of "The Power of WE ... commUNITY", unity is at the forefront. This sense of togetherness fosters collaboration and shared purpose, driving motivation and engagement. The year ahead looks promising! Join us at the fall conference to delve deeper into these exciting developments.

A heartfelt thank you to the chapters for their efforts and accomplishments. Highlights:

Most members reinstated: Hermes chapter 41, Bridgeport,

Most members initiated: Thoas chapter 198, Hartford,

We celebrated Sister Adele Antoniou from Thoas chapter 198 with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

In June, at the scholarship dinner in Waterbury, CT, District 7 awarded scholarships totaling \$23,000. Congratulations to the deserving students. A special thanks to the Waterbury chapters for their gracious and dedicated hosting.

An exciting and fun-filled AHEPA Family Supreme Convention took place at the Horseshoe / Paris hotels in Las Vegas, NV. Kudos to the D7 Hellenic History Tournament team for securing the national championship! Looking ahead, the 2024 Supreme Convention will be held in Cyprus.

Mark your calendars: the Northeast Hellenic History Tournament (HHT) is set for Saturday, November 18th, 2023. For details, reach out to pdgahepad7@gmail.com or call 803-463-0495.

SAVE THE DATE ~ Yankee District 7 Fall Conference is on Saturday, October 21st, 2023, in Hartford, CT.

Presentation and round table on *Understanding and Engaging a Multi-generational Organization towards Growth and Productivity*. We will explore the characteristics, views and values of each generation and ways to capitalize on each generation's unique strengths; ways to attract and retain younger members.

Insights from the Supreme Convention

Review of changes to the Book of Rituals (now called Book of Procedures)

It's a must attend!

Yours in Theta Pi,
Elisa Marotta

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james@fourmco.com

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EDITOR'S NOTES by Jack Isaac

The National Convention just ended in Las Vegas and I'm delighted to inform you that District 7 was honored with many awards and will be represented in the leadership of the AHEPA family. This issue has all the details of District 7's successes, but let me give my personal congratulations to Alex Boutsoulis who will become the next Supreme Governor of Region 4. I've worked with Alex in many different capacities so I know he will have great success in this new position. Keeping it in the family, Marianne Boutsoulis will reprise her role as Grand Governor of Zone One. District 7's "First Couple" deserve our applause for all their years of service to the Order of AHEPA.

I'm pleased to report that the Yankee News was recognized for publishing the Best Printed Version of District Publications in the AHEPA domain. Many thanks to our dedicated team who work tirelessly to maintain our paper's quality. Norwich Chapter 110 won second place in the e-gram competition this year. Tony Petros, who brings his leadership to the effort, and the entire Norwich chapter should be proud of this recognition.

I'm sure you'll enjoy reading about the many accomplishments of our Hellenic History team, our achievements in the world of sports, and the resurgence of the Sons of Pericles in our District. We all enjoy hearing about the great successes of our district, but please remember it is essential to continue providing this information on a regular basis. It would be great to let us know about *future* events in your chapters *prior* to the events so that we can support them.

The next deadline for submissions to our publication will be November 8th. We'd love to hear from every chapter this time. We also hope to have a regular column devoted to the Sons of Pericles. Stay tuned for more interviews in upcoming issues.

AHEPA Opens Emergency Fund for Greece's Wildfires Relief

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Supreme President Savas Tsivicos authorized the opening of the AHEPA Emergency Relief Fund on July 28, 2023, to provide humanitarian assistance for the victims of Greece's wildfires.

As in the past, AHEPA members have mobilized in response to this call to action. As the wildfires continue to burn, we have seen our chapters and members come together to help in any way possible, and are proud.

In 2007, AHEPA donated \$250,000 worth of goods and an additional \$250,000 in financial assistance to victims of Greece's wildfires. Following Greece's wildfires of 2018, AHEPA raised 159,000€ to complete a burn unit at Evangelismos Hospital in Athens.

"The images and stories coming from Greece are horrifying and tragic," Supreme President Tsivicos said. "Our thoughts and prayers are with all who have been affected by this tragedy. We are extremely grateful to Greece's first responders and to all nations that have offered support and assistance. We will stand with Greece as we did in the past and during other times of great need." He

added, "We appreciate the United States' response and commend the initiative of the Congressional Hellenic Caucus's leadership to engage USAID for assistance, which we strongly support." Every bit of your tax-deductible donation to the Emergency Relief Fund helps. Please spread the word and encourage as many as you can to assist.

Visit ahepa.org/donate today!

Statistics	
Total fires	80+
Cost	€600 million (2023)
Date(s)	17 July – August 2023
Cause	2023 European heat waves Human negligence or
Buildings destroyed	Hotels and residences
Deaths	7
Non-fatal injuries	75+
Evacuated	20,000+

International Hellenic History Tournament

Submitted by Gregory Simones Las Vegas, NV, July 27, 2023: The International Hellenic History Tournament (HHT) took place at the Horseshoe Casino and Convention



Center and was hosted by AHEPA International HHT Committee and funded by AHEPA Headquarters. Under the direction of chairman, Themistocles Frangos, SC, and committee members Byron Yankou and Greg Simones, six teams competed for prize money and the coveted Nikas Cup trophy. There were two teams each from the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Toronto, Canada regions. The Chicago region had no teams due to COVID cancelled tournaments the last two years. The top three teams, Stamford/Rye Spartans (Northeast), The Falafel Kids (Mid-Atlantic), The Byzantine Bros (Toronto, CA), each team member received \$2,000, \$1,000, and \$500, respectively. Highway 2 Hellas (Toronto, CA), The Aphrodites (Mid-Atlantic), and Aristotelians (Northeast) were the fourth, fifth, and sixth place teams. Greg Simones, PDG and Alex Boutsoulis, PDG were the volunteers from District 7 along with others from elsewhere that were responsible for moderating, scoring, and supervising the matches. The first-place team was the Northeast Region Spartans from Stamford, CT/Rye, NY consisting of Captain Anthony Bouboulis and teammates Maria Kourounis and Emmanuel Tertirooulos. Congratulations to the Spartans for bringing the trophy back to the Northeast.

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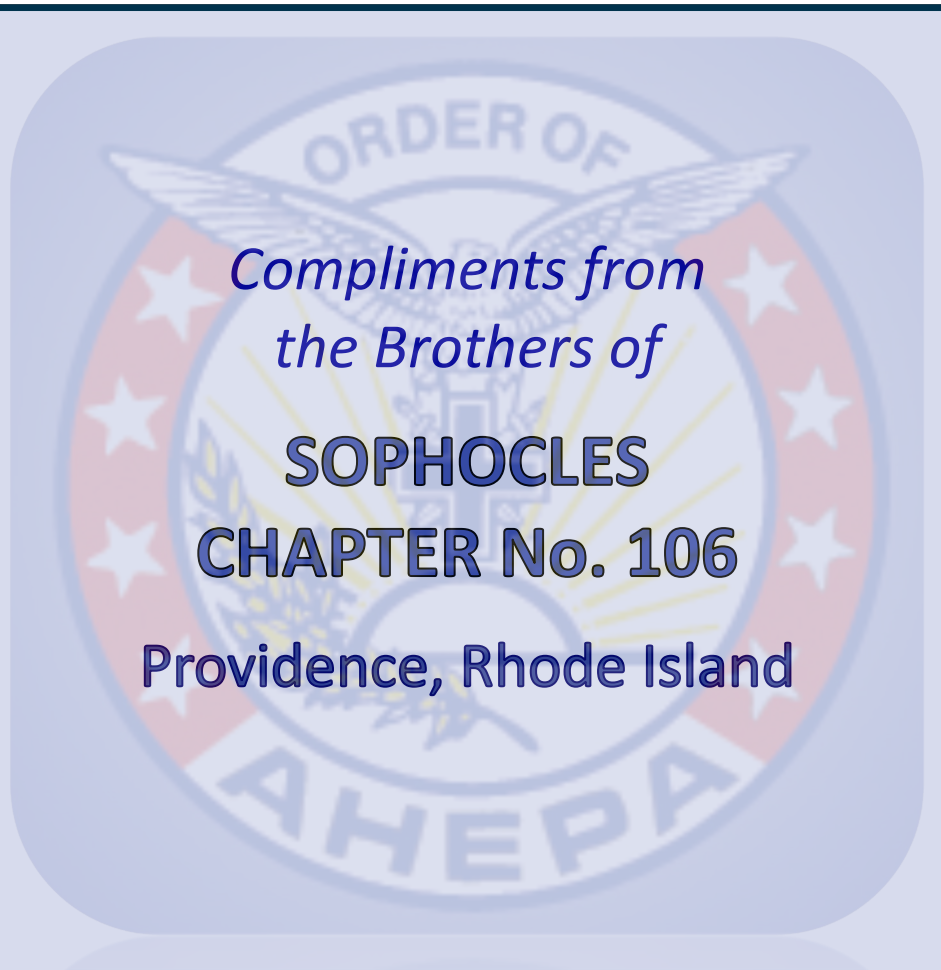
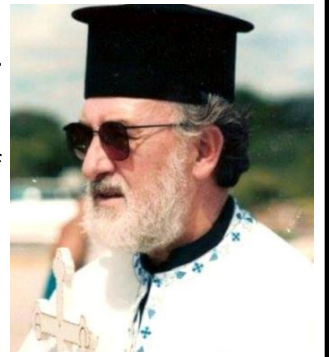
Anthony Guy (Tony) Calibey, born July 17, 1930 in Hazleton, PA, joined his beloved wife Alexandra (Sandy) in the hereafter on July 31, 2023. Tony, the oldest child of Anthony Frank Calibey and Catherine Fazio Calibey, was predeceased by his sister Louise Craig and brother Guy Calibey.

Tony served in the U.S. Navy from 1948 to 1953 rising to the rank of Chief Petty Officer and flying off aircraft carriers as an electronics specialist across the Atlantic and Mediterranean during the Korean War. He met Sandy when stationed at Quonset Point, RI where they began their marriage of 60 years. Tony put himself through college with the GI Bill and was valedictorian of his class at Roger Williams. He spent his career in business machine sales beginning with Friden Business Machines and culminating with TRW. Throughout his career, which took him across the country, he excelled and won multiple company awards and accolades. He was always generous with his time and business acumen assisting others in starting successful business endeavors.

A wonderful husband, father, uncle, grandfather, colleague, role model, provider, mentor and friend, Tony was generous, helpful, loyal, personable and kind. He quietly, modestly, left a large wake. He will be missed by the many whose lives he touched.

Tony was an active member of St. George Greek Orthodox Church and a member of the Nathan Hale Chapter of AHEPA for over 30 years. He leaves his daughter Kathy and her husband Henry Salton, his son Dave and his wife Sue, his son Doug and his wife Melody, his son Greg and his wife Jill, his grandson Dan, his grandson Nick and his wife Catherine, his grandson Josh, his granddaughter Sarah Salton and her husband Carter Eckley, his grandson Skyler and his fiancée Joanne Norris, and his great-grandchildren.

Fr. Charles J. Simones, retired priest of St. Sophia Church in New London, passed away April 11, 2023. He was 91. Fr. Simones was born Jan. 30, 1932, in Lewiston, Maine, the son of the late Demetrios and Alice Lambrew Simones. He was a 1951 graduate of Edward Little High School in Auburn, Maine. He graduated from Holy Cross Seminary in Brookline, Massachusetts, in 1958, with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He received a master's in education from Trinity College in Hartford in 1972. Fr. Simones married the former Joan Canacaris of Bath, Maine, in Portland, Maine on Sept. 28, 1958. They enjoyed 64 years of marriage together. Fr. Simones served two parishes: Annunciation Church in Quebec City, P.Q, Canada for three years and St. Sophia Hellenic Orthodox Church in New London for 45 years. The family has resided in Waterford for the last 55 years. Fr. Simones was honored with the title Sakellarios in 1967, in Lewiston, Maine, and was named a Protopresvyteros by the Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras in 1983. Fr. Simones translated three books on the Elder Porphyrios. 'Elder Porphyrios, Testimonies and Experiences', 'The Divine Flame Elder Porphyrios Lit in My Heart' and 'Miraculous Occurrences and Counsels of the Elder Porphyrios'. Fr. Simones retired from his post at St. Sophia Church in 2006. He was honored Oct. 8, 2006, by parishioners and friends for his 45 years of dedication to the parish at St. Sophia and 48 years in the Greek Orthodox priesthood. He served the Three Hierarchs Chapel on the University of Connecticut campus at Storrs, for several years after his retirement. He is survived by his wife Joan; his son Gregory Simones; his son Thomas Simones and his wife Genesis; his grandsons, George Simones and Dimitri Simones; and his former daughter-in-law Katina Simones. He was predeceased by his grandson Constantine Simones.




*Compliments from
the Brothers of*
SOPHOCLES
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

~*~



E. Vagos Hadjimichael, PhD
District 7 Governor, Past President Chapter 98
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**Salute to a Veteran
~ George Mitchell ~**

George Peter Mitchell, a 63-year member of Winthrop Chapter 250 was a 1958 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. He served a year on board a Coast Guard cutter based in San Francisco before being transferred to the U.S. Naval Training Command in Pensacola Florida where he was trained as a Navy/Coast Guard aviator. His first duty station was at CG Air Station, Oahu, Hawaii flying throughout the Pacific. In 1963 he was transferred to the C.G. air station in Brooklyn, NY. The Coast Guard again sent Mitchell to Pensacola for helicopter training. Upon returning to Brooklyn, he became involved in many searches and rescues at sea including the 1964 crash of Eastern Airlines flight 663 with 84 people on board, TWA flight 800 with 230 people on board and the collision of the tanker Stolt Dagali and the cruise ship Shalom in fog in lower NY harbor. He was twice awarded the Coast Guard Commendation Medal for helicopter rescues at sea. He retired from the Coast Guard as Lt. Commander in 1966 and went to work for PanAm where he last flew Boeing 747s to destinations all over the world.



Mitchell met and married his wife Emily while stationed in NY. They had two children, Cristina, a doctor in Providence and Peter, an attorney in NY. He is a past president of Chapter 250 and was its treasurer for over twenty years. A life-long member of New London's Saint Sophia, he served the church in many ways including festival chairman for years and recent chairman of its 75th anniversary celebration.



Pontian Genocide Remembrance Day: Never Forget!

Submitted by Yiannis Apostolakis, Hellenic Affairs Chairman

On the Pontian Genocide Remembrance Day, May 19th, we commemorate the events of 1914-1923. It's estimated that during this period 2.75 million Armenians, Assyrians and Greeks were killed. We salute the recognition of the Armenian Genocide by the United States, and we hope that this historical event will motivate us, the Greeks of America, Greek Americans, and Philhellenes to intensify our efforts to recognize the Pontian Genocide in this country and everywhere else!

Every citizen of this world needs to learn about the Pontian, Armenian and Assyrian Genocide. The lessons have not been learned and this is something we all have a responsibility to do our part to learn and teach. Let's start with our families first! We have seen over and over that if we don't learn from history and its lessons, history will repeat itself. Let's pray that this does not happen. May the memories of all those who perished in this dark period in history be eternal. May we find the courage, like the Armenians, to make the Pontian genocide recognized in this country! More important, let us pray that remembrance days like the Pontian Genocide, the fall of Constantinople on May 29, 1453, and others, make us think and re-evaluate our priorities as AHEPA Brothers and Sisters. How come the Armenian Americans fought so hard, for so many years, to recognize the Armenian genocide in this country? They never gave up, they never stopped until they were successful! Where are the Greek Americans, the Philhellenes? Where is AHEPA in all of this? I still remember the words of my father, a retired Hellenic Armed Forces officer who used to say to me: **"Everything can be taken away from you, the clothes, the money, the house. Your faith, your history, and your heritage nobody can take it away, unless you give it up yourself!"**

A few statistics:

- Average time for Hellenic Affairs in every D7 convention or Conference: about 5 minutes!
- Dinner and banquet: about 3+ hours!
- Arguing about paying a few dollars more in National, per Capita, or so: hours and hours!

My grandmother's words came to mind.

She worked on the farms and raised 3 children. She never got the opportunity to educate herself in school, due to WWII, Nazi occupation of Greece and then civil war. She was born in a village outside of Korinthos, in the Peloponnese!

Όποιος ζει για τα πανηγύρια, μένει με τα πανηγύρια!



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Supreme Convention

Submitted by Gregory Simones

Las Vegas, NV, 101st Supreme Convention, July 24 to 28, 2023: Eight (8) Yankee District 7 AHEPA Family members (3 DOP, 4 AHEPA, 1 SOP) attended the Convention. District 7 highlights of the convention are:

- 1) election of Alex Boutsoulis, Waterbury, CT #48 as Region 4 Supreme Gov.,
- 2) reelection of Marianne Boutsoulis to a second term as Zone 1 Grand Gov,
- 3) The Sons of Pericles Constantinople Chapter #15 (New Haven, CT) was named Chapter of the Year; their President, Giovanni Panagiotakopoulos, was named President of the year, and George Antellis, Jr. of that chapter was elected Supreme Governor,
- 4) Yankee News (official publication of District 7) won first place in the district printed category and Norwich, CT took second place in the electronic chapter publications ,
- 5) D7 members helped to execute the Fourth International Hellenic History Tournament under the direction of Brother Themistocles Frangos, SC where the Stamford, CT/Rye, NY Spartans brought home the championship
- 6) Inducted George Kokinis from Wethersfield, CT (Baltimore Ravens, NFL Team Executive) and George Kostelis From Cromwell (Central Connecticut State University Men’s Assistant Soccer Coach) to the AHEPA Athletic Hall of Fame,
- 7) AHEPA members voted to pass four legislative issues:
 - a) National Sons Advisor serves on the Supreme Lodge as an appointed, nonvoting member, is now an automatic delegate to the Supreme Convention, and is the Chair of the National Sons Advisory Committee; the term limit for National Athletic Director changes from 5 to 10 years; an AHEPAN cannot serve as National Sons Advisor if convicted of a felony;
 - b) Establishment of a formal appeal process for suspended chapter members;
 - c) Immediate Past Presidents where there is no Board of Governors is to assist the new President to aid in a smooth transition and continued operation of the Chapter;
 - d) Responsibilities of the District Marshal has been expanded to include Membership Director and the District Warden to include Communications Director.

AHEPA Athletic Hall of Fame Submitted by Gregory J. Stamos

The Athletic Luncheon at the Annual Convention had a particular resonance for District 7 in that two of the inductees to the Order of AHEPA Athletic Hellenic Hall of Fame have strong Connecticut roots. The Hall of Fame was formed in 1974 and now includes in excess of 175 members. Induction into the Hall of Fame is the highest accolade that a former athlete, sport's broadcaster or team executive could attain. Prior inductees include Pete Sampras, Bob Costas, Spero Dedes, Connecticut's Niko Koutouvides and Adam Rand. This year's Class of Hall of Fame inductees included...

George Kokinis, who has been a high-level National Football League Team Executive for three decades, George is now the Director of Player Personnel for the Baltimore Ravens, serving his thirteenth year in that capacity. Amongst his other accomplishments was serving as the General Manager of the Cleveland Browns. As Director of Player Personnel, George oversees the National Football League draft for the Ravens, serves as talent evaluator and leads the scouting staff. George had been a standout two-sport athlete at Hobart College, as a star pitcher and member of the football team. George hails from Wethersfield, Connecticut and is the son of life AHEPAN Peter Kokinis of the Hartford Chapter and Daughters of Penelope, Priscilla Kokinis; & **George Kostelis**, of Cromwell, Connecticut, was inducted for his long career in the field of soccer. George was a standout goalie at the University of Hartford, garnering many All-Conference designations and also being a part of the Conference's All-Academic Team; thereafter, he played professionally in Greece and in United States Soccer Leagues, before embarking on a 25 year career as a prominent college men's soccer coach, including stints at Yale University, UCONN and now serving as an Assistant Head Coach at CCSU. Both Kostelis and Kokinis spoke eloquently about their Greek heritage, and their very deep appreciation to the Order of AHEPA for this great honor.



Chris Atsaves, George Kokinis, Greg Stamos



Chris Atsaves, George Kostelis, Greg Stamos

The "Power of WE' Zone 2 Sisterhood Conference

Submitted by Elisa Marotta, District Governor

A remarkable conference! Nearly 100 sisters from districts 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 united to exchange ideas, learn, and celebrate sisterhood.

Recognizing and honoring accomplished women is crucial. As Daughters of Penelope, we stand as an extraordinary organization.

At this event, we introduced the Spirit of Penelope award, acknowledging women who embodied dignity, perseverance, and creativity. These women achieve personal and professional success while inspiring others.

Our inaugural Spirit of Penelope awardee was Katarina Mountanos, CEO of Kosterina, a Mediterranean lifestyle brand centered around extra virgin olive oil. A Harvard Business School graduate, she founded three successful companies, displaying unmatched resilience and grace, even while managing three young children. Let's continue to seek out accomplished women, acknowledging and celebrating them. In doing so, we uplift ourselves, inspire progress, and move forward together.



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**District 7
Convention
May 2023**

Congratulations & Appreciation to
 Dr. James Rouman, MD, Hellenes of the Year
 Pericles Moustakakis, Ahepan of the Year
 Nicholas Paindiris, Esq, Entrepreneur of the Year
 New London Chapter 250, Chapter of the Year

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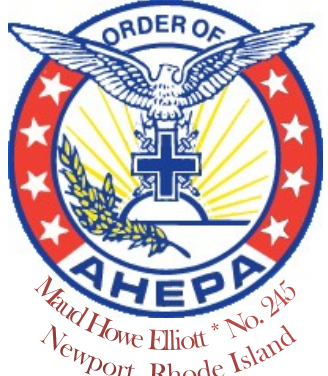
Celebrating our 93rd Year

 AHEPA Southeastern Connecticut
 Winthrop Chapter 250

Pictures by Gregory Simones



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

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 Lt. Governor - Marcella Calagias
 Secretary - Christina Smith
 Treasurer - Penny Pecka, PDG
 Marshal - Katina Arnold
 District Advisor - Anna-Helene Grossomanides, PDG
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Newport, RI

*founded
 November 24, 1929*

Pawtucket 121 News Submitted by Yiannis Apostolakis



On Sunday, May 21st, Pawtucket Chapter 121 celebrated National AHEPA Day with a free community brunch. All the Brothers in our Pawtucket Chapter, including newly initiated ones, worked hard to secure donations for our breakfast and to prepare a unique event for our community guests. We were happy by the attendance of our community and the overwhelming support for our Chapter. We took the opportunity to talk about AHEPA and to motivate our community members to join us and to work together to support the work



of AHEPA. We also asked our parish priest Fr. Zymaris to read the encyclical from our Archbishop Elpidophoros on the AHEPA National Day celebration.

Newport 245 News Submitted by Babis Ntaskas



The Maud Howe Elliott Chapter 245 awarded AHEPA Scholarships and Medals for Scholastic Excellence to two graduating seniors from our local AHEPA family in June. Chloe Christy, daughter of Bro. Billy and Heidi Christy and granddaughter of Bro. Dino and Helen Christy, graduated from Middletown High School and will be attending Brown University. Kristalia Panteleos, daughter of Bro. Leon and Popi Panteleos graduated from the Prout School and will be attending the University of Rhode Island. Congratulations to our seniors: Billy Christy, Chloe Christy, Kristalia Panteleos and Leon Panteleos. We wish them great success in their future endeavors!

AHEPA Chapter 245 Newport closed out the 2022/2023 AHEPA year in fine fashion in June with a Wine and Cheese social after their business meeting where they awarded scholarships to two worthy graduating high school students and reelected the same slate of chapter officers. Newport wished all of District 7 Καλό Καλοκαίρι!



George Panichas, Alexandros Philippides, Demetri Damaskos, President Leon Panteleos, John Panagako, Dr. Ernie Violet, VP Anthony Spiratos, Dr. Michael Sisak and Peter Petrou.

Norwich 110 News Submitted by Tony Petros



Supreme President Jimmy Kokotas, visited the Norwich Chapter 110 on May 30th. The reception was held at the Prime 82 Restaurant in Norwich. The Supreme President presented AHEPA Service Pins to: Democles Angelopoulos (45 yrs.), George Maistrelis (45 yrs.), Charles Christodoulos (45 yrs.) and Tony Petros (60 yrs.).



George Ververis Jr., Anna-Helene Grossomanides PGP, Charles Christodoulos, Chris Bekiaris, Dist. 7 Governor Hadjimichael, Demetrios Tasoulas PDG, George Maistrelis, Telly Demestikas, Norwich Mayor Peter Nystrom, Supreme President Jimmy Kokotas, Dr. John Grossomanides, PSP (sitting), John Fakis, Patti Angelopoulos, Chris Valkanos, Maria Valkanos, Ernest Pool, PDG, Tony Petros, PDG, Greg Simones, and Demos Angelopoulos

We welcome our new chapter officers who were installed at our July 26th meeting. George Grossomanides was the installing officer.



George Ververis, outgoing Secretary, attended the meeting via Zoom.

Treasurer Chris Valkanos; Secretary Telly Demestihias; President Democles Angelopoulos and outgoing president George Grossomanides.



Standing: Dr. John Grossomanides, Joseph Hominski, Telly Demestihias, Sean Ryan, Chris Valkanos, James Steinmuller, George Ververis, George Grossomanides. Sitting: Tony Petros, Democles Angelopoulos, and Ernest Pool. .

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Waterbury Chapter 48 & Daughters Chapter 19 News

Submitted by Penny Pecka

Twenty students were awarded scholarships at the annual scholarship luncheon at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox church in Waterbury, CT on June 4, 2023. The scholarships were presented by the following Holy Trinity Organizations: The Waterbury AHEPA Chapter 48, Daughters of Penelope Chapter 199, Ladies Philoptochos Society Chapter 8, Saint George Eptahorian Society and the Pan Macedonian Association.

There are a total of 20 endowed scholarships which are awarded annually; the Ted Lainas Memorial scholarship was endowed this year.



Those in attendance were, *bottom row, L to R:* Elizabeth Nonamaker, Karina Deros, Mary Sakoulas, Giovanna DelBuono, Christianna Tzezos, Victoria Gagas and Ava Mullin. *Back row, L to R:* Markos Tzezos, Dean Koulouris, George Kotsaftis, Nicholas DeMatteis, Alexander Forte and Rev. Fr. George Kasapoglu. *Absent* were Matthew Bouzakis, Yianni Constantinou, Niko Bouzakis, Stefanos Billis, Barbara Kotsaftis and Eliana Capobianco.

Sons of Pericles Chapter 15 News

Submitted by George Scarveles, pictures by Greg Simones

This Sons of Pericles Constantinople Chapter 15 is "ON FIRE"!!!! Look at all they have done in three years. They have doubled the size of their chapter to eighteen members. This was accomplished with two initiations this year and another class of new members planned for this fall. They recently had an election and the new officers are: Theodoros Maniatis, President, Robert Andreas Wagner, VP, Andreas Lolis, Secretary and Demetrios Teodosio, Treasurer.



At this year's National AHEPA Convention in Las Vegas, they were named **Chapter of the Year!** The chapter president

Giovanni Panagiotakis was selected as **Chapter President of The Year!** The chapter treasurer, George Antonellis, was elect to the Sons Supreme Lodge and will serve as **Supreme Governor!** The four elected Chapter 98 Sons of Pericles advisors are: Dr. Antonios Panagiotakis Chairman, Emanuel Cosmas, Athanasios Partalas, and Vasilios Diakogeorgiou.

The members of this chapter have participated in the AHEPA Hellenic History Tournament, the St Barbara Odyssey, and are still serving the church as Altar boys. The Sons elected the outgoing president Giovanni Panagiotakis as Sons of Pericles Liaison Officer to work with the AHEPA Chapter 98 Advisory Board.

The Sons of Pericles are our future. If a community doesn't have enough youthful members to start a chapter give us a call. We would be honored to initiate or reinstate them into Sons of Pericles Constantinople Chapter 15.

Our Sons of Pericles Constantinople Chapter 15 was reestablished during the presidency of E. Vagos Hadjimichael, PhD. As many of you brothers know, reestablishing a chapter that has been dormant for a long time is a very challenging project. Many thanks to our Past Chapter President and now District 7 Governor Vagos.



L-R top row standing: District 7 Treasurer Alex Boutsoulis, District 7 Secretary Gregory Simones, Chapter 98 Treasurer George Antonellis, SOP member Paul DeBassio, SOP Advisor Manny Cosmas, SOP Treasurer George Antonellis Jr., SOP Supreme VP Alec Economakis, District 7 Athletic Advisor, Greg Stamos, PSC, SOP Supreme Governor, George Horiates, Chapter 98 Chairman Peter Gekas, SOP VP Theodoro Maniatis, Chapter 98 Chaplain Robert Wheway, SOP member Peter DeBassio, Chapter 98 President George Scarveles, PSG. Bottom row seated L-R: SOP member Luca Terilli, SOP member Anthony Esposito, SOP President Giovanni Panagiotakis, SOP member Vasilios Maroulis, SOP member Demetrios Teodosio.

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

~

Angie and Ted Augustinos

An AHEPAN mentor told me, "You get out of AHEPA what you put into it".

I believe you get more. Opportunity awaits you. Get active in your chapters today!



Gregory C. Simones, PDG

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

Daughters of Penelope Thois 198 "WARRIORS" Hartford, CT



New Britain 117 News Submitted by Andrew Aros

Sunday June 11 was an active and important day for the New Britain Chapter of AHEPA and the St. George Community. New Britain AHEPA assumes the cost and pays all the financial obligations associated with the Sunday School of St George. The chapter also pays the tuition for all Greek School Students whose parents are members in good standing of St George Greek Orthodox Church. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy Sunday School Director Menia Manos and Very Reverend Archimandrite Spyridon presented the Sunday School Students promotion or graduation certificates. Next, Greek School has its graduation program. At the end of the program Greek School Director, Stamo Dimitratos and Very Reverend Archimandrite Spyridon Chatzis presented the AHEPA Greek School Achievement Certificates and Medals for the 2022-2023 Greek School Year. This year's Certificates and Medals were awarded to: Medori Wheatly, Angela Koci, Kokona Magriplis, Mihalis Magriplis, Minas Halkias, and Joann Deluca.

AHEPA Community Picnic - After church New Britain AHEPA has its annual St. George Community Picnic at Churchill Park in Newington. Picnic Chairman Costas Georgacopoulos and Chapter Entertainment Chairman Panagiotis Palkanikos made certain everyone was well fed and having a wonderful time, enjoying each other's company and Greek music. In addition to the normal fare of hamburgers and hotdogs, the food included chicken, spare ribs, and it would not have been a Greek Picnic without souvlakia. The chairmen wish to extend a very special thank you to the brothers who did much the cooking: Jim Babetas, Mike Bolovis, Nick Bouras, Nick Koukouves and Chris Nasiakos.

Celebrating the End of the School Year -

Throughout the school year, New Britain AHEPA sponsors the St. George youth groups' activities. These include a fall social, movie nights, and their end of the school year outing. After several years of COVID restrictions the youngsters returned to Quassy Amusement Park for their end of the year outing. Mother nature's rainstorm delayed their return by one week, but as the kids said, "We had a blast."



District Scholarship Winners - The chapter extends a special congratulations to the College Students from the New Britain AHEPA family who earned Yankee District # 7 AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope Scholarships. Scholarship recipients whose parents are members of the New Britain AHEPA family are: Alexander Demosthenous, Alexander Manos, Sophia Manos, Alexandra Ritsatos, and Sophia Stamos.

Past Chapter President and PDG George Rados and Past DOP President and PDG Donna Rados sponsor the Rados Family Scholarship. This year the scholarship was presented in absentia to George Kotsaftis. Future District Scholarship winners should thank Sister Mary Aros of Eretria Chapter #138 New Britain. Sister Mary won the 50-50 Raffle and immediately donated her winnings to the scholarship fund.

Providing Secure Elderly Housing in 88 Buildings!

AHEPA National Housing Corporation has been providing affordable, independent housing for low income elderly since 1980. In this short period, 89 buildings have been built, providing 4,650 housing units, with a total HUD commitment of almost \$600 million.

The involvement of the AHEPA and Penelope Family Chapters provides the strong foundation for the projects, both financially, social and supportive services for the tenants.

AHEPA Senior Living, established in 1991, provides management for all the AHEPA projects.

In 2018, AHEPA National started a new assisted living venture for those seniors who need assistance with the activities of daily living. Hellenic Senior Living Communities offers a wide variety of services and amenities to live independent and offer the assistance they require. Currently, there are four Indiana communities totaling 522 units.



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New Haven Chapter 98 News

Submitted by George Scarveles

On Saturday May 13, 2023, members of AHEPA Chapter 98 and the members of Saint Barbara's Golden Years boarded a bus at the church for Saint Nicholas National Shrine. It was a great ride to downtown New York. Brother Peter Iosifidis was able to attach his cell phone to the bus intercom system, so we had Greek music all way to Ground Zero. We had plenty of time to visit the reflecting pools and the surrounding areas. The Icons in the church were breath taking! All I can say is, you must see it to believe it! Father Peter gave a service that kept everyone spellbound. Listing to Father Peter's service, looking up at the Icons, made you feel like you were in a Heavenly bubble.



After our Church/Shrine tour, we walked a short distance to dine in one of the best Greek restaurants in New York. The owner and staff served us a fantastic Greek gourmet meal, as if we were royalty. When dinner was finished, we walked back to the Shrine to wait for the bus back to church. It was late afternoon, the Sun was shining...as a matter of fact it was *hot*. Many of us would have liked to stay a while till it got dark so we could see the Shrine glowing in the sky. Well, it might have been God sent or a mechanical

malfunction but - when we looked up - No bus for Gus! We sat in the glaring sun till the glaring Moon came out, still "No bus for Gus". Finally, at about 9pm, after viewing the illumination of the skies by the Dome of Saint Nicholas Shrine, a bus came from Bridgeport to bring us home.

So, in conclusion, it was an overwhelming visit to the Saint Nicholas National Shrine, a great meal, and an eye-opening view of the illumination of the Dome. All being said, it was a great trip.



Sandi Wilcox, Priscilla Kokinis, Adele Antoniou

Daughters of Penelope Chapter 198 & AHEPA Chapter 158 News

Daughters of Penelope Chapter President, Maria Tougas, along with 5 members and officers, attended The AHEPA Family District 7 Convention held in Newport, Rhode Island on May 6, 2023. Our chapter is most proud to have been awarded for being the chapter with the most initiates in 2022. Sister Adele Antoniou received the Lifetime Achievement Award – congratulations and well deserved.



Lisa Marotta & Marcella Calagias

District Elections were held and the following members from our chapter were installed: Lisa Marotta remains District Governor, Tina Smith remains District Secretary and sister Katina Arnold was nominated in absentia to the position of Marshall.



Adele Antoniou, Maria Tougas, Zoja Hoda

While at the convention we visited an ice cream shop owned by a potential new DOP member from Hartford, Zoe Hoda. We were all treated to a delicious, freshly-made ice cream from her shop *Sticks, and Cones* in Newport, Rhode Island.

South Park Inn: The following members helped serve at South Park Inn, a homeless shelter in Hartford: Tina Smith, Stephanie Zapatka, Priscilla Kokinis, Alexa Melonopoulos Fleury and daughter, Thea Fleury along with Ahepans Peter Smith and Kevin Ward, (our chauffeur)!



Priscilla Kokinis, Stephanie Zapatka, Tina Smith, Peter Smith & Kevin Ward

In May we initiated Staci Lynch, Helene Meyers, Claudia Ale, and Jordann Karabetos. Sophie Kapetanopoulos was also reinstated. As we always do in June, many members volunteered at our St. George Greek Cathedral Festival.

Nathan Hale Chapter #58 held its pre-summer meeting in their lodge room at AHEPA 58 Apartments in Wethersfield, CT. The meeting opened with election of officers: President Mike Bonatsakis, Vice President Mike Zerbini, Secretary John Melonopoulos, Treasurer Costas Loukellis, Governors George Bouzakis, Jim Triachos, Larry Papanic and Kevin Ward. Non-elected positions went to Chair Governors Niko Yanouzas and Scribe Paul M. Vardoulakis.



Following elections, D7 officers Evangelos Hadjmichael, John Fakis and Greg Simones, initiated the following applicants into the order: Demetrius Triantafylidis, Mike Karabetos, Nick Bokron, Peter Seibegis. That evening we also welcomed back reinstated Brother Jim Triachos. That evening, Pres. Bonatsakis presented an award to Jerry Copsinis, AHEPAN of the Year, 2019. The presentation had been delayed due to the covid pandemic. Then, following a short meeting, both the AHEPA and Daughters shared in a wonderful AHEPA Family barbeque. Tony Kazakos, George Bellas, George Bouzakis and Mike Bonatsakis shared the two grills. The end of the year and beginning of summer was celebrated on the patio of the Nathan Hale Center with members of our chapters...Food was plentiful and our grill chefs did an outstanding job. We all enjoyed a wonderful evening of fun and friendship.

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-Demetrius E. Tasoulas-



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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
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Calendar of District 7 Upcoming Events

September 29 - Chapter 98 Annual Golf Tournament
Orange Hills Country Club, Orange, Connecticut

October 21 - District 7 AHEPA/DOP Fall Conference
St George Cathedral Social Hall, Hartford Connecticut


November 8 - December Yankee News Deadline

November 18 - D7 Hellenic History Tournament
Saint Barbara Church, Orange, Connecticut

December 16 - Chapter 117 Annual AHEPA Family Christmas Party
St George Church Hellenic Center, New Britain, Connecticut


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.




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**Order of AHEPA
Elpis Chapter # 117
New Britain, CT**



The AHEPA Stamford Chapter 99 salutes the Yankee News editorial team for their dedication, hard work and good taste.