

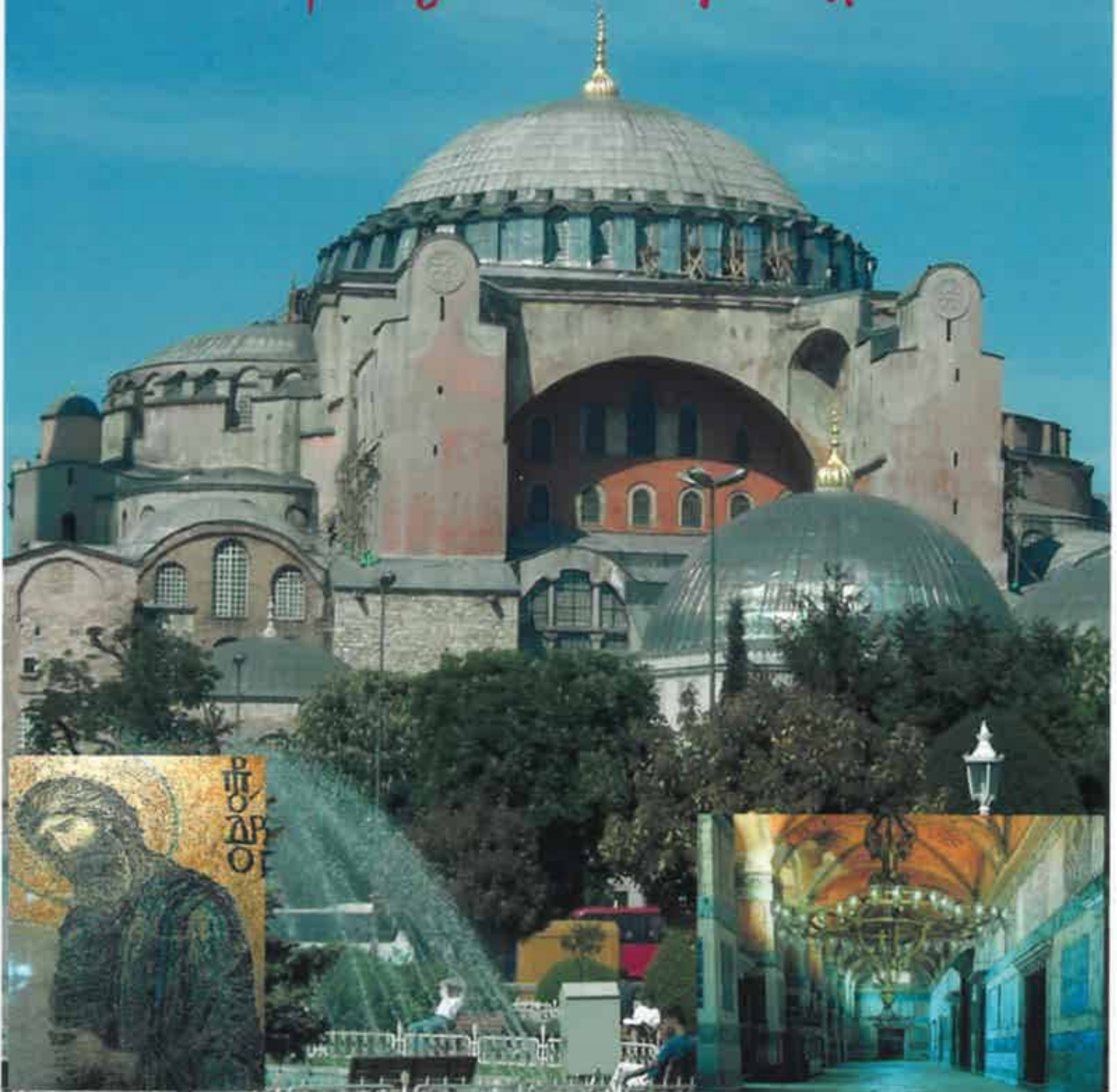
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AHEPA *Voice*

The John G. Thevos District No. 5 NJ, DE Winter Issue 2019

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May 30 and June 1-2, 2019

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Registration – 2pm to 9 pm

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Pennsauken, NJ - *for details contact AD Nick Horiates (609) 280-9576*

OFFICIAL CONVENTION OPENING – 7pm

Welcome Reception - **Cigar Smoker Battleship Waterfront**

DJ Party for Sons and Maids – Plaza Side

Tours available of Battleship NJ and New Jersey Aquarium Friday and Saturday

SATURDAY – JUNE 1

Registration – 9 AM to 2 PM

General Business Sessions – 9 AM to Noon

Daughters of Penelope Luncheon – 12 to 2 PM

(Scholarships & Awards by both AHEPA & Daughters)

Sons and Maids Delegate Rooms Available and **Sixers Training Center Basketball**

General Session – 2 PM to 5 PM

GRAND BANQUET – Reception 6:00 - Diner 7 PM

SUNDAY - JUNE 2

Church Services – St. Thomas Greek Orthodox Church Cherry Hill -

AHEPA Memorial Service and farewell luncheon

Daughters Scholarship Luncheon - \$35.00

\$60 registration includes Daughters luncheon – Grand Banquet \$60

Holiday Inn Cherry Hill Hotel – 856-663-5300

AHEPA Voice



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District Lodge

AHEPA

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Lt. Governor.....Steven Marmarou
Secretary.....George Pappas
Treasurer.....Bob Fourniades
Marshall.....Savvas Kyriakou
Warden.....John Koninis II
Athletic Advisor.....Ted Vittas, PDG
Sons Advisor.....Louis Stephanou
& George Perentesis

DOP

District Governor.....Joann Szela
Lt. Governor.....Isa Valez
Secretary.....Joan Ranundos
Treasurer.....Antonia Papadopoulou
Marshall.....Irene Frangos
Maids AdvisorAnna Bousoulas
AdvisorDina Fanikos

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BOT Lee Millas, Editor
PDG Ted Vittas
BOT Vassos Chrysanthou
PDG Ernie Tsapstinos
PDG John Tarabicos
PDG George Righos
PDG Costas Sedereas

District & National Websites

AHEPA National

www.ahepa.org

Daughters of Penelope National

www.daughtersofpenelope.org/

AHEPA District 5

www.ahepadistrict5.org

Sons of Pericles

www.sonsofpericles.com

Maids of Athena

www.maidsofathena.org



Message from the Editor

Lee J. Millas

In welcoming the new year, we can, at the very least, contemplate the past year with the idea of continuing the good and also consider the possibilities of change. This also applies to our individual involvement as Ahepans and what we can do for a better future. With this in mind, I would like to present the following comments made by James Zafros in reference to strengthening, Ahepa membership:

“Analytical data shows the Order of Ahepa is still the backbone of the Hellenic American Community even though it’s domestic membership has been in decline for some time. Ahepa is not alone, as other organizations have experienced similar declines. It is not that these organizations have changed, but America as changed. Moreover, in spite of aggressive efforts to initiate new members, the issue is not recruitment but retention. Today, potential members are constrained by lack of time. In addition, they may not see much in an organization whose prestige and vitality have declined.

The decline of Ahepa’s domestic membership has forced Ahepa to develop and expand the brand in new markets, like Europe, to make up for the loss of revenue, image and prestige. Also, we need to understand what makes organizations flourish and what makes them languish. Social economic factors, including mixed marriages, divorces, newfound wealth and time management have impacted all social organizations.

The Greek-American and Philhellene of today are more likely to be considerably more successful, resourceful and better-educated with advanced degrees than their Ahepa counterparts of previous generations. While their priorities remain family, career and education, status has entered into the equation of lifting their image. They seek association and recognition with leading members of their community. They want their children exposed to a better social environment so they can interact and network with people, not necessarily of their own ethnicity, and this accounts for the large numbers of mixed marriages.

This generation’s Ahepan’s seek upscale, social, diverse and economic mobility in an effort to achieve their goals. Many have left Ahepa and have joined other organizations in their attempt to achieve success.

It is not enough to simply rely on routine monthly meetings, distribution of scholarships or the next philanthropic project to rise to the occasion. Ahepa has the built-in advantage of being an “American” grass roots organization, but it needs to reinvent its performance on an ongoing basis and it has to focus its attention in its own backyard. This would appeal to the ever increasing numbers of Philhellenes, who are becoming members and even leaders in their chapters.

Some Ahepa chapters are consciously aware of these socioeconomic factors and are more likely to succeed. Signature events like Career Days, Legend Tributes, Supporting Wounded Warriors, nation-wide Ahepa Housing, guest speakers and involvement and co-sponsoring community events, certainly help to fill their calendars. That’s what the “A” in Ahepa stands for and leads the way for tomorrow’s growth”.





Message from the Business Manager

Philip Vogis

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you very much for your support to the AHEPA Voice magazine. Your chapter contributions and news articles, again has made our magazine the number ONE magazine in the AHEPA Domain. The Publications Board and I would like to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We truly appreciate the support from all of our D5 AHEPA Family members. In addition, please continue to support our advertisers that make our magazine possible. Fraternally:

Brother Philip Vogis PDG PSG R3
Business Manager



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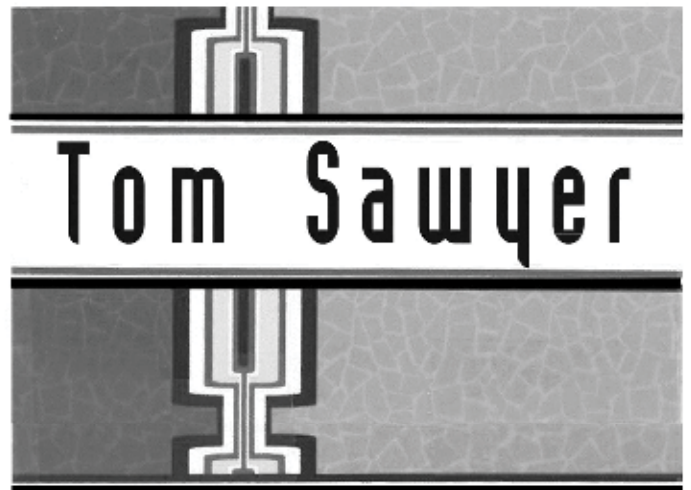
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Message from the District Governor

Dimitrios P. Rozanitis

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope each of you enjoyed the Christmas holiday with your families and friends. The New Year promises to bring much to our district and more importantly, health, happiness and prosperity to each of you.

I have been honored to witness and have the lodge participate in the fall calendar. Highlights include many an initiation, Sons reactivations, Cancer Gala , Mid-Atlantic History Tournament, initiation of United States Congress members and Saint Basil's Christmas Pageant. I congratulate and recognize the outstanding contributions of each of you as we have stayed true to our active programming and promotion of Hellenic ideals.

Although it was a busy fall, the spring promises to be much more so. Look for more district seminars at a neighborhood near you. Particularly, our goal is to host a district seminar for chapter secretaries to review their responsibilities and provide assistance. Our first ever Ahepa Regional Banquet benefitting the Odyssey Charter School in Wilmington is set for February 2, 2019, Greek Parades in NYC and Philadelphia will dominate our April calendar, Capital Hill Day and of course the 88th District Convention on May 31 through June through 2, 2019.

I ask and challenge chapters to start their membership drives now. Let's continue the momentum from this past year with increases in getting and retaining members as that is the backbone of the Order of Ahepa. The lodge will attend any initiation you have throughout the winter and spring months. This time honored principle also applies to chapters looking to create Sons chapters. We will attend any of these events as well. After all, we are here to perpetuate our heritage and groom our leaders for future generations.

Not to mention there are so many programs we have Journey to Greece and other programs like it have always had the support of our district. Our scholarship program at the local and district levels continue to increase in amounts and numbers. Our efforts to rebuild the Sons of Pericles and jointly with our Daughters of Penelope our Maids of Athena must continue as well.

I look forward to seeing each of you. More importantly, Ahepa needs your support of its promotion of the Hellenic ideals. Consider this New Year greeting as your personal invitation to actively participate.

Fraternally,

Dimitrios Rozanitis

DIMITRIOS ROZANITIS





Message from the District Governor

Joann P. Szela

Dear Sisters and Brothers of District 5,

Now that 2018 has ended, I am fondly thinking on the first half of my year as District Governor.

My travels have increased the love and respect I feel for every Sister I meet. Each Chapter is blessed with hard working and dedicated Sisters who gratefully give to the AHEPA Family and the world around them. So many communities in New Jersey, Delaware, Canada, the United States and around the world have been touched by the Sisterhood of District 5. Thinking of the number of people impacted by this inspires awe. This is truly an organization that touches the world in a loving way and there is no other one like it. We are blessed and so is the world around us.

Personally, my bonds with our Sisters and Brothers have deepened in a way I had never expected. I look forward to the upcoming year with a new anticipation as we continue to spread our good works to all touched by the AHEPA Family.

As we enter 2019 and face a new year, I am reminded of one of my first impressions of the AHEPA Family and the Daughters of Penelope.

I felt the blessings of Brotherhood and Sisterhood. May these blessings fill your heart as they have mine.

Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy 2019

Joann P. Szela
District Governor
Garden District 5

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District News

FIFTH DISTRICT AHEPA CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION GALA



George G. Horiates, Order of AHEPA Supreme Secretary, Antoinette Marousis-Zachariades, Foundation Chairman and Demi Thomas, Daughters of Penelope Grand President



Fifth District AHEPA Cancer Research Foundation Board of Trustees



Daughters of Penelope District 5 Governor Joann Szela and Grand President Demi Thomas



Antoinette Marousis-Zachariades, Foundation Chairman, Dr. David Lyden, Children's Blood Foundation and Valerie Vittas, Foundation Member



Antoinette Marousis-Zachariades, Foundation Chairman, Dr. Edna Cukierman, Fox Chase Cancer Center and Tom Sulich, Foundation Member



Antoinette Marousis-Zachariades, Foundation Chairman, Dr. Shridar Ganesan, Rutgers Cancer Institute of NJ and Viveca Sulich, Foundation Member



Sam Thomas, PDG, George G. Horiates, SS, Andrew C. Zachariades, PSP, Dimitrios Rozanitis, DG and Tom Sulich, Foundation Member



Daughters of Penelope-Georgette Boulegeris, Grand Treasurer, Demi Thomas, Grand President and Celia Karmarski, Grand Vice President

District News

Sons of Pericles Makes Donation to National Project St. Basil's Academy

On December 15, 2018, the Sons of Pericles presented a donation of \$12,500 to St. Basil's Academy at its annual Christmas Pageant. Each year, the Sons of Pericles choose a National Project to support and contribute donations. St. Basil's Academy was the National Project for last term and, joint with the Maids of Athena, the Sons of Pericles worked hard to raise funds for the cause. Current Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles, Gregory Vourloumis, presented the check at the side of His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia along with the children who reside at St. Basil's Academy. For those interested in getting involved, this year's National Project for the Sons of Pericles and Maids of Athena is the Smile of the Child, a Greek organization helping and housing at-risk youth. More information can be found on their website, www.sonsofpericles.org.



On this special occasion a number of AHEPA brothers attended the testimony of Brother Savas Tsivicos PDG for his years of service of the Cyprus Children's Foundation that was organized by the Cyprus community. We want to acknowledge his contributions to the Greek and Cypriot philanthropic causes. We wish Brother Savas much success in the years ahead.



Past District Governors District 5 NJ/DE
Celebrate Christmas Party Dinner

Order of Ahepa Bergen Knights Chapter 285
cordially invites you to our



Buffet Breakfast

**Sunday,
Feb 10, 2019**

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FOR WARRIORS PROGRAM**

The program raises funds to identify, train and match service dogs to wounded Veterans suffering from PTSD. 22 veterans commit suicide daily as a result of the PTSD.



We Can Help!

District News

These were taken on 15 December commemorating Wreaths across America which is a national movement to remember the nations fallen, to honor their service and to teach the next generations about the sacrifices made for us to live freely. There were sixty-seven men from our community who served in World War 1, six are buried at Elmwood cemetery in North Brunswick. Five members of AHEPA Monroe Chapter 75 together with Fr. Nick Pastrikos gathered on that day to pray for them and to place wreaths upon their graves. They were Nick Kehayas, Jim Karamanos, Tony Kalogrides, Manny Manioudakis and Dean Solomos.



Bloomfield VET Center(Combat Vets of Northern NJ) held on December 10th 2018.

Bro. Phil Vogis, PSG R3;
Jonathan Popovich, Director, Bloomfield Vet Center; Paul Goulet, Chapter President;
Charles Charllis, Chapter Vice President.



Chapter News

Chapter 54 Report

We had a busy 2018, On March 23rd we headed the annual Bergen County Greek Independence Day Flag Raising in Hackensack, NJ. At the event, many local dignitaries joined our Chapter as well as the Ramapo Chapter and Bergen Knights to celebrate Greek Independence and recognize Greek-American individuals as well as AHEPA members that have contributed to their communities.



On June 6th, we had our annual Scholarship Awards Dinner at the Graycliff in Moonachie, NJ, where we honored high school graduates pursuing higher education from our three affiliated churches. At the event, we handed out over \$15,000 to High School graduates, Greek School graduates and History Tournament participants from our three affiliated churches. At the event, we also honored our long time brother, Steve Siderias, whom has tirelessly helped our organization as well as other philanthropic contributions to the Hellenic community.



At the district 5 convention in Newark NJ, Michael Kovoros was awarded Secretary of the year.



At the Supreme convention in Atlantic City our past president, Chris Morgan, along with representatives from Ramapo and Bergen Knights chapters presented checks totaling \$15,000 for AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors. The service dog will be named Bergen.

On October 3rd, we held our annual Cigar night with a record amount of attendance. Proceeds from this event are earmarked for our year long donation programs.

To close out the year our chapter held its annual Christmas party on December 11th at the Graycliff in Moonachie NJ.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



CHAPTER #287 AHEPAN OF THE YEAR DINNER



Chapter News

AHEPA #517 – Holmdel, NJ

Garden State Chapter #517 honored their Founding Brothers this past October at an award dinner and wine tasting at Fox Hollow Vineyards in Holmdel, NJ. Family and friends celebrated along with members who were recognized for reaching milestone memberships of 5,10,15 & 20 years as well. Those dear Founding Brothers who are deceased were well represented by family members who accepted awards in their memory.



On November 20 Chapter #517 embraced Supreme President George Loucas' initiative to help grow AHEPA's membership by welcoming 14 new members to its Chapter this year. The District Lodge was well represented at this dinner meeting initiation and the chapter looks forward to its new brothers support and participation as the Chapter continues its successful endeavors.

On this same night, Demetri Orfanitopoulos, President of Chapter #517 was honored with the District's President of the Year award presented by our own Supreme Governor (Reg. 3) George Karatzia. The Chapter invites all members and families of District 5 to their upcoming Superbowl Party at Kimisis Church (Holmdel, NJ) on Feb. 3. This would be a great time for all Chapters to come together at what promises to be a SUPER event.



AHEPA Chapter # 517 Holmdel, NJ is proud of their two brothers who took an oath on January 2, 2019. Brother Michael Nikolis takes the oath of office as Deputy Mayor of Holmdel Township, NJ. Chapter # 517 president, Demetri Orfanitopoulos is appointed by mayor to Holmdel Zoning Board of Adjustments. Demetri has volunteered for over 20 years for the township.



Chapter News



AHEPA- CHAPTER 517 NEW

On Thursday October 4th, 2018 our chapter visited the Ronald McDonald House- Greek Division as we do every year for the past 19 years. The Ronald McDonald House is one if not our most favored charities which was initiated and ever since supervised by brother Jim Nikitopoulos.

We served dinner to some 150 people(kids, parents, grandparents, etc.) The food was graciously provided by our Chapter.Eight Ahepan brothers were present to provide help, company and love to everybody there. Present were George Katsingris, George Karatzia, Zack Moros, Soteris Petrou, Chris Petrou, Nick Plakoudas, Jim Nikitopoulos and Chapter president Demetri Orfanitopoulos.This is the most rewarding activity that our chapter undertakes



On November 20th a mass initiation was held at Kimisis Tis Theotokou in Holmdel NJ for Chapter 517. Assisting in the Initiation was Supreme Governor George Karatzia, District Governor Dimitri Rozanitis, Lt. Governor Steve Marmarou, District Treasurer Bob Fourniadis, PSP Andy Zachariades, PSG Louie Arvanities. Chapter 517 has been working to bring in additional new members and has spearheaded the now extremely successful AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors Program



Chapter News

NEW AHEPA RAMAPO CHAPTER 453 BROTHERS



LEFT TO RIGHT: Charles Charllis, Vice President; Stephen Bojekian, Past President with Son-In law, Daniel Mendoza; Charles Pflager, Secretary; Paul Goulet, President; Stratos Colman; James Moustopoulos, Treasurer; Alexander Drivanos, son of Brother Nick Drivanos; and Stuart Johnson Brother, Paul Goulet

AHEPA RAMAPO CHAPTER 453 OCTOBER 16TH 2018 INITIATIONS EXECUTIVE BOARD WITH NEW BROTHERS

LEFT TO RIGHT:

CHARLIE PFLAGER, Secretary; JEFFREY APOSTOLOU; DIMITRI J. PSARRAS;
PAUL GOULET, President; GEORGE CHRISTOPOULOS; YIANNI MARIS;
JAMES MOUSTOPOULOS, Treasurer; CHARLES CHARLLIS, Vice President.



Agape Chapter 336 Celebrates
Christmas Party
Wyckoff, NJ

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Chapter News

Ahepa 453 Ramapo Chapter Update

The Ramapo Ahepa chapter has been very busy for the first part of the year. Membership continues to grow as we initiated 8 new members – 4 each in October and November:

- Brother Jeffrey Apostolou,
- Brother George Christopoulos
- Brother Yianni Maris
- Brother Dimitri J. Psarras
- Brother Daniel Mendoza
- Brother Stratos Colman
- Brother Alexander Drivanos
- Brother Stuart Johnson.



A good amount of this work has been dedicated to Veterans. In December, we presented a check for \$3,500 to the Director Jonathan Popovich of the Bloomfield VET Center at the VFW Post , Garfield, NJ. Sponsoring a buffet dinner for over 300 Combat Veterans and families for a Holiday Christmas Dinner and other helpful programs for the Veterans.

Also in December, we donated \$5,000 to the AHEPA'S Service Dogs for Warriors, Ahepa Ramapo Chapter 453 Co-Sponsored with Bergen Knights and the Alexander Hamilton Chapters toward sponsoring a dog to be named "Bergen".

For Upcoming events, we will be donating \$3,500 to the Wyckoff EMS and Wyckoff Fire Engine #2 at the Wyckoff Town Meeting on February 5th. Also on May 22nd, we will be having our annual smoker at Seasons in Township of Washington, NJ.

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DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE		
Demi Thomas <i>Grand President</i>		
Joanne Szela <i>Governor, District 5</i>		

Chapter News

Trenton Ahepa #72 Chapter Update



Trenton Ahepa #72 Celebrates Christmas

On 12/19/18 the Brothers of Trenton Ahepa #72 gathered to ring in the Holiday Season with an excellent meal at their Christmas Party. The evening was one for brotherly bonding and of giving thanks for the many successful programs Trenton Ahepa #72 sponsored and participated in over the 2018 year. There were 107 brothers and guests present as President Rick Roscoe presented special service awards to brothers Jim Knicos, Spiro Spireas, Asteris Fanikos, Lee Millas, and Ted Fanikos for exceptional service to the chapter and the Order of Ahepa this past year. In memory of Brother Jim Mitchel who passed away on 12/16/18, a special emergency relief fund was established at the dinner.



Trenton Ahepa #72 Sponsors and Participates in Jingle All the Way 3K event for Special Olympics of NJ

On 12/3/18 the Special Olympics of New Jersey held it's annual fund raising event, the Jingle All the Way 3K fun run and race to raise funds for the Special Olympics programs offered in NJ. Trenton Ahepa #72 proudly assisted with this program as a sponsor. In addition over 20 Ahepans and their families participated as members of "Team Maria" and assisted in being the largest team in the event and the greatest fund raising team. "Team Maria" is set up by Dr. John Passalaris, father of Maria and a brother in #72.

Trenton Ahepa #72 Turkey Distribution

On Saturday 11/17/18 Trenton Ahepa #72 joined forces with the Hamilton Township PBA and FMBA to distribute over 250 Thanksgiving Turkeys to needy families of the Hamilton community through the Saint Rafael Food Pantry. Trenton Ahepa #72 donated \$1,000 to assist with the cost of the turkeys and provided brothers to help with the distribution of the turkeys and dinner items. The collaboration with the Police and Fire Benevolent Associations was the first and the success of this event was appreciated by members from all groups that participated.

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Our Departed Brothers



Ernie Tsaptsinos January 25 2019

AHEPA Mourns Passing of Past Trustee Tsaptsinos
AHEPA is saddened to learn of the passing of Brother Ernest N. Tsaptsinos, a former member of AHEPA's Board of Trustees, and dedicated member of Ocean County Chapter 467, Toms River, N.J. Brother Tsaptsinos, who resided in Toms River, passed away January 25, 2019. He was 80.

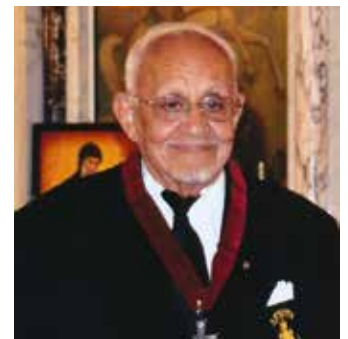


“Brother Tsaptsinos served the Order with a passion and dedication that many of his fellow brothers admired,” Supreme President George E. Loucas said. “We are especially grateful for his service to our country as a U.S. Army veteran during the height of the Cold War. Our deepest sympathies are with the Tsaptsinos family. May his memory be eternal.”



John Mehos February 6 2019

AHEPA Mourns Passing of PSG John Mehos
AHEPA is saddened with news of the passing of Past Supreme Governor John Mehos. Brother Mehos, of Jersey City, N.J., passed away Feb. 5, 2019. He was 89. Brother Mehos was a 53-year Life Member of Hudson Chapter 108, Jersey City, where he served the chapter in every capacity. Eventually, he served as District 5 Governor, and in 1999-2000, he served as Supreme Governor. Brother Mehos was also an Archon of the Order of Saint Andrew.



“Brother Mehos was an outstanding and beloved Ahepan, devoted member of the community, and a true gentleman,” Supreme President George E. Loucas, said. “His passing will leave a tremendous void, and he will be missed. Our sympathies are with the Mehos family. May his memory be eternal.”

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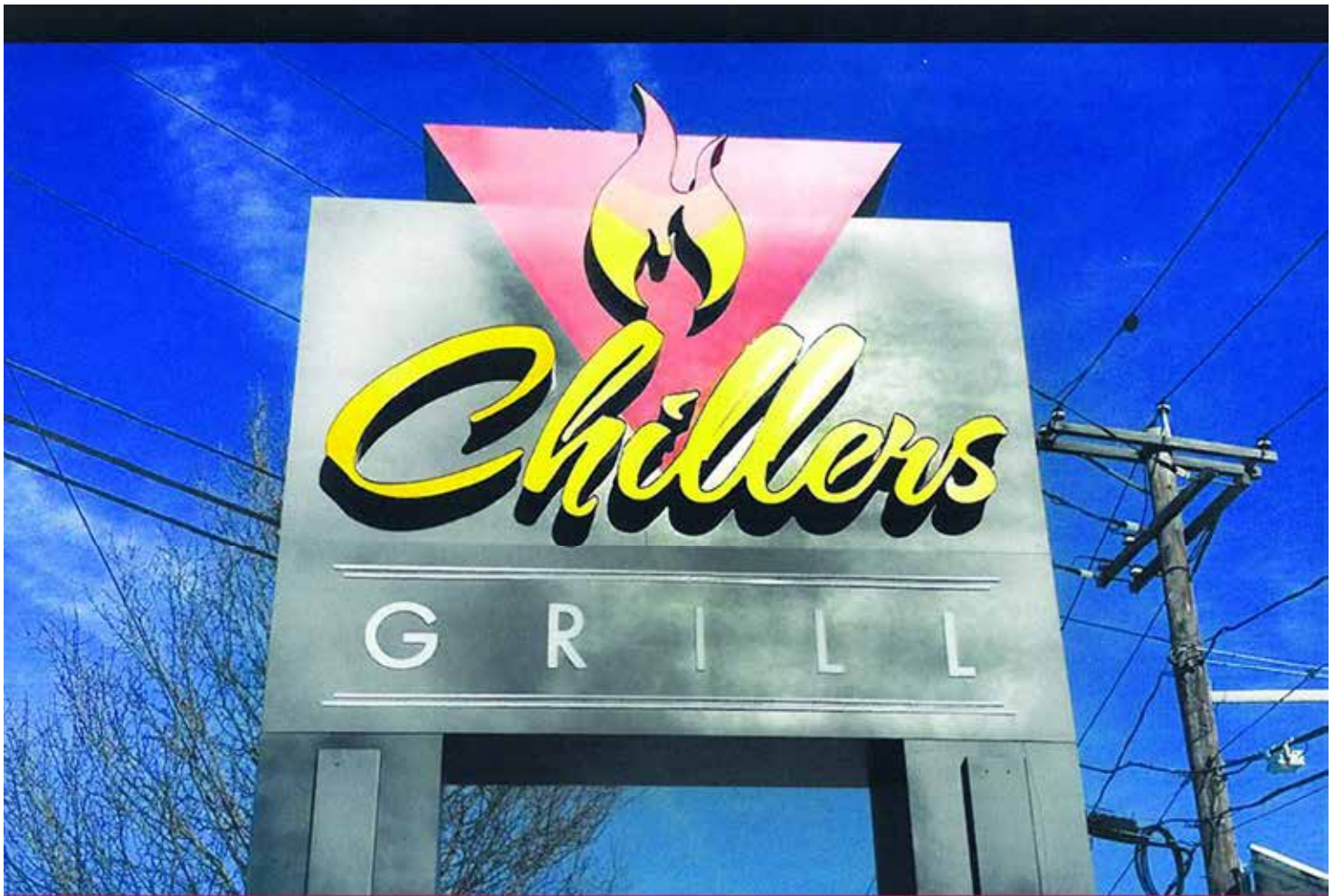
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