

SUMMER/FALL 2008

John G. Thevos Fifth District NJ/DE

AHEPA *voice*

American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association



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5th District Governor, Order of AHEPA

THEODORE FANIKOS

It is my honor and privilege to address you as District Governor for the first time. I would first like to thank all my fellow brothers for their support and faith in electing me into this office and I will strive with every ounce of my soul to make our brotherhood better than we find it. We have a rich history in our district and a long line of great district governors. I only hope to be worthy of their legacy and all that they have accomplished.

I would like to specifically thank three past District Governors that I have learned from and worked along side. PDGs George Karatzia, Ted Vittas and Chris Diamantoukos all strove to make the AHEPA great and I will do my best to be as dedicated to the brotherhood as they are.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to Brother Lee Millas for his election to the National Board of Trustees and to Brother Lee Arvanitis with his reelection as Supreme Governor. I know that they will serve with honor and make us all proud. They are examples for us all. I would also like to congratulate Demi Thomas, District Governor for the Daughters of Penelope and hope for another great year working with the sisters in our projects and ventures.

I would also like to thank all the brothers of Camden Chapter No. 69 for hosting such a terrific convention this past June. I only hope that with the Trenton Chapter hosting this year on June 5th and 6th that we do just a fine of a job. Your District Lodge members include: Lt. Governor Phil Vogis, Secretary George Horiates, Treasurer Savvas Tsivicos, Marshall Bill Harrison, Warden Sammy Thomas, Athletic Director Nick Marioles and Sons Advisor Ted Vittas. We all look forward to another dynamic year and will do our best to accomplish our goals.

The Fifth District has grown in brothers and chapters and we need to continue our progress. I have seen first hand of our growth as the chapters have worked to increase membership and to grow in strength. However, we need to continue hosting our workshops, our district seminars, and our educational and cultural seminars. We need to continue our traditions and remember our history and heritage, lest we forget them. Moreover, by having such events, they promote our brotherhood.

We should focus on bringing in new brothers and showing our community what we are all about. Throughout the year we will have many events and must not lose any opportunity to bring in our relatives and friends to such events in order that they may join our fraternity as brothers. We miss our potential in simply not opening our doors to possible brothers.

We should also continue to be examples for our community. Among the various chapters and their projects, be it in regards to the Cancer Foundation, our golf outings and scholarship fundraisers, we always strive to do what is best for our community. As brothers we are a backbone of the community with the variety of issues, be it through the parish council, our assistance to the Church, festival fundraisers among such issues. When someone sees what we accomplish and how hard we work to make our community a better place, it encourages new members to inquire about our organization and want to join.

On such a topic that I am proud of is how the brothers of District 5 came together and spearheaded the AHEPA's Emergency Greek Fire Relief efforts. As everyone recalls, Greece was devastated this past summer with the wild fires.

In response to this emergency, over 170 care boxes, full of clothing, blankets and other such items, were shipped to the victims in Greece. Because of our efforts, the fire relief program was a success and brought help to those in need. I knew in my heart that the brothers of our District would work tirelessly and was amazed in the generosity and speed in which we banded together in order to raise the funds and donations for those devastated in Greece. We should all be proud of our efforts and contributions.

Moreover, most recently on June 22, 2008, I had the pleasure of attending an event in Volos, Greece. I met with 25th District - District Governor Alfred Barich, his officers, and Volos Chapter President Pavlis Manolis with his chapter officers. The first matter on the agenda was the initiation of nine new brothers. This was followed by a dinner which was attended by the 25th District Lodge, with brothers from a multitude of chapters including but not limited to Volos, Thessalonica, Kozani, Zanythicos, and Glyfada, with representatives from the American embassy and local government representatives. It was my privilege to present on behalf of the Fifth District certain donations in response to the disastrous wild fires that affected our motherland.

The Fifth District presented its donation of funds for the purchase of science and laboratory equipment and computers for the local school, 'adopted' one orphan for a year, 'adopted' one senior for a year, renovation of a local Church devastated by the wild fires, and made arrangements for 200 trees to be planted in September. Words cannot do justice to the thanks and appreciation that were in our brothers and sisters' eyes. It is these types of projects and endeavors that we must continue.

There are a lot of events being planned for the new year and am especially looking forward to the Christmas season with a trip to St. Basil's Academy. If you have never attended this event, I urge you do so as it is something you will never forget.

I am looking forward to personally meeting all the brothers at the visitations during the year. Furthermore, my door is always open and if anyone ever needs me for anything, please do not hesitate to contact me as we should all attempt to help each other out as brothers.



Photo from the visitation and the initiation in Volos, Greece

Fraternally,
Ted Fanikos

5th District Governor, Daughters of Penelope

DEMI THOMAS



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It is with great joy that I again address you as District Governor of the Daughters of Penelope District 5. I was reelected at this year's District Convention in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. My goal this year is to continue to work to strengthen our fellowship, and to support activity that reflects a renewal of our commitment to the ideals of the Daughters of Penelope. We made great progress last year and that this year will be even better. The Daughters of Penelope received recognition not only locally but nationally for

our spirit of philanthropy, for our financial donations to education, to social charities, for our energetic volunteering in support of our communities and for our new ventures of Civic responsibility.

Once again this year we started off with a successful "Day at the Races" sponsored by the Education Foundation. Those of us who attended this event at Monmouth Park had a great, if not profitable, day. We have many more activities lined up for the year. Our District Workshop will be hosted by Tethys Chapter, New Brunswick. It is scheduled for Oct. 4. We have a great

program planned. Don't miss out on the fun, be there! Please look for your first District Governor's bulletin the first week in September for additional details. We will be partnering closely with the AHEPA family throughout the coming year.

Sisters, the Daughters of Penelope is an active and vibrant organization that has a long and proud history. You will each receive from this organization 10 times what you contribute. The friendship and support and effectiveness of our Daughters is a tradition worth keeping. Let us all continue to help make this year one to be proud of.



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Lt. Governor Phil Vogis
Secretary George Horiates
Treasurer Savas C. Tsivicos
Marshal William Harrison
Warden Sammy Thomas
Athletics Advisor Nick C. Mariolis
Sons Advisor Ted Vittas

DOP

Governor Demi Thomas
Lt. Governor Karen Marousis
Secretary Robin Papagiannis
Treasurer Donna Karpodinis
Marshal Roula Thasites
Advisor Antoinette Marousis

District and National Websites

National www.ahepa.org
AHEPA Districts. www.ahepafamily.org
District Sports www.ahepasports.org

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Message From The Supreme Governor and Regional Director Louis Arvanitis

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Let me just say Thank You for your great support and trust to reelect me as Supreme Governor and, at the Athens Supreme Convention, Regional Director #3. I certainly look forward to a better communication and cooperation for yet another successful year. After visiting various chapters of our region I realized that Ahepa is alive and needs, as always, our efforts in continuing the progress for our beloved organization. The membership drive must continue and must have again the success it did last year. Both district conferences of Districts 5 & 6 were very successful. I was glad

to attend all of them. The regional conference, however, is what I call very progressive. The first was to establish the foundation with a business plan and the second was to call 20 plus professionals for new direction, as well as new ideas, so we can better our Order. We should all take advantage of the presence of these brothers and keep them within our chapters. I am sorry I missed the District #6 convention, I extend my congratulations to that District Lodge. I did, however, represent the Supreme Lodge at the District #5 convention – my congratulations to the hosting chapter #69 and the DOP. Thank you for an excellent organization! Congatulations! It did



bring me some old memories. Finally, the Supreme Convention in Athens, Greece, was exceptionally organized and left us all with a lot of good memories of the great parties and even the greater conversations. Our excursion cruises were unforgettable! Let's do that again soon!

Fraternally, Louis Arvanitis.



Message From The Member of the Board Lee J. Millas, AHEPA Board of Trustees

contracts were signed and our commitment made two years ago, we left much of the responsibility to the local Ahepa chapters and to an independent agent to handle the travel arrangements. This eliminated much of Ahepa's financial liability and although we would not realize much of a profit, we were protected from a financial loss.

This is a FIRST NOTICE for all Chapters in District 5 to set aside the date of JUNE 5th and 6th, 2009, for the next District Convention which will be hosted by the Trenton Ahepa Chapter No. 72. and the Daughters of Penelope Chapter No. 163 The convention will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel located at Exit 8A of the New Jersey Turnpike which is exactly in the center of all chapters in District 5. Although final plans have not been completed, we are sure you will appreciate the large meeting rooms, indoor swimming pool and sports bar at this hotel. During the year, you will be updated on events planned for our district convention. So please set aside the date of June 5th & 6th for a convention that you cannot miss.

The last Supreme convention held in Athens was in 1970, and after two recent cancellations, it certainly was an oportune time to return. When the final Ahepa Voice – SUMMER/FALL 2008

Although there were many who doubted a successful convention in Athens, all fears proved unfounded as delegate strength almost matched the previous years Denver Convention and all events were attended to capacity. In fact, the opening ceremony attracted over one thousand Ahepans & guests at the Zappion. If you wanted to bring the family to a convention and enjoy a week of social events and touring, this was the convention for you. Much of the convention business was concluded in two days and the local Ahepa chapters went out of their way to make our stay an enjoyable one. Much will be said of the events as you will enjoy the photos of the activities in this issue of the Ahepa Voice.

However, there were two events that must be mentioned. One was the Grand Ball which was held at the Olympic Swimming Pool used at the Athens Olympics, where

dinner was served in tables surrounding the pool and great entertainment. The other, was a special tour of the yet to be opened Acropolis Museum were Ahepa was invited for a presentation of the return of the Elgin Marbles and see the inside that will not be open to the public for another six months. Bravo Ahepa!!!! Also, over 300 Ahepans and their families went on the 5 day cruise thru the Greek Islands. It was truly a tour not to be missed and all enjoyed the company and the weather as well as the many great sites.

We are all proud of the fact that our own Brother Lou Arvanitis was re-elected to the office of Supreme Governor. Unfortunately, he was contested by a candidate from District 6 (New York) even though we tried to avoid an election. The results proved that Brother Lou did a great job last year and will continue to do so. Also, I was elected to a three year term on the Board of Trustees and I pledge that the funds of Ahepa, will be both well guarded and increased. Our congratulation also to Brother Andy Zahariadis who was the Vice-Chairman of the Athens Convention.

District 5 plays an active roll in the national acitivities of Ahepa and we all look forward to a great year.

The Journey to Greece Ends Its Third Successful Program



The Journey to Greece is an AHEPA educational offering to Greek-American collegiate youth. It is administered through the AHEPA Educational Foundation and is in partnership with the University of Indianapolis (UINDY).

The Journey to Greece program is uniquely designed to immerse young Greek American students in a wonderful learning experience celebrating Greek society, history and culture.

Journey to Greece is in its 3rd Year in 2008 with two Sessions being offered our students: Session #1: June 15-June 29 where students will take one class for 3 units of credit. Session #2: June 30th to July 26th where students took 2 classes for 6 units of credit.

Under the direction of Past Supreme President, Dr. James F. Dimitriou, the UINDY/AHEPA program has grown significantly in numbers over the last three years. This year the program has been offered in two sessions, designed for students to participate in the AHEPA 86th Annual Supreme Convention held in Athens. The Journey to Greece for 2008 has offered two sessions for over 80 students to participate and earn university

credit while visiting Greece! Students were able to take two 3 unit courses in Greek language, art and archeology, philosophy and history while participating in a unique program!

Below are excerpts from the daily activities of the students as taken from the weekly bulletins on the AHEPA website:

WEEK 1 - JUNE 15TH-JUNE 29TH

In their very busy schedule, students were offered a wonderful meal along with their Welcome Reception on top of the University's Cultural Center, located at the historic Roman Agora, just below the Acropolis.

The weekend coming up would provide more historical-cultural activities, with the students going on a trip to visit Ancient Olympia, Mycenae, Epidaurus and beautiful Nafplion!

As the week started with a weekend of activities and visits to some of the world's greatest archaeological sites. The Journey students traveled to three of the most important sites of ancient Greece: Olympia, Mycenae and Epidaurus.

After leaving Athens, the students traveled by private coach across the Corinthian Canal to the Peloponesian peninsula.



On Saturday afternoon, students were taken to the famous sanctuary of the Olympian Zeus. Here students saw the very first Olympic stadium, dating back to the first Panhellenic Olympic Games of 776 BC. The Museum of Olympia having been completely remodeled for the 2004 Olympic Games features many masterworks of the ancient world, including the famous statue of Hermes by the sculptor Praxiteles, dating back to 340 BC. In the evening the students enjoyed a nice dinner at the Asty Olympia Hotel and were invited to dance with a wedding party celebrating that same evening!

On Sunday the tour continued to the ancient site of Mycenae, the oldest archeological site of mainland Europe. Here students experienced the famous Royal Palace and Lions Gate of the historical House of Atreus and the Mycenaean civilization that dates back to the time of the Trojan War. Also visited was the famous Treasury of Atreus or Tomb of (Continued on Page 2)

Agamemnon, that was uncovered by Heinrich Schlieman in 1876 and dates back to 1350 BC.

Following this visit, the students went on to visit the ancient site of Epidaurus and the theater known for its perfect acoustics. Here the Journey experienced first hand the perfect acoustics of this 4th century center of classical Greek theater and sanctuary of Asclepius, the son of Apollo. After these visits, the students went on to the lovely coastal city of Nafplion, the first capital of modern Greece for a late afternoon meal, before our drive back to Athens.

Following this busy weekend of visiting archeological sites, the final week of the first session was also very busy! On Tuesday, US Ambassador Daniel Speckhard hosted our students at the US Embassy for a briefing on key issues in Greek-American relations, such as Cyprus, the Patriarchate, the

Aegean, the Macedonian issue and the Visa Waiver program. The Ambassador was very cordial and entertained by questions and many photographs with the students by the AHEPA Marshall statue in the Embassy grounds.

On Wednesday, the students were taken on a guided tour of the world famous Archeological Museum of Athens by Dr. Stan Sfekas. Professor Sfekas was able to highlight many of the great treasures of the 10,000 square meter museum for our students.

On Thursday, our students were invited to a special reception and talk by His Eminence, Archbishop Theofilos, Exharch of the Patriarch of Jerusalem. His Eminence gave the students a warm greeting and personal tour of the historical collection of religious artifacts at the Exarchate headquarters. Following this, they were taken to the church for a talk and presentation regarding the Patriarchate of Jerusalem and its historic role in the life of the Greek Orthodox Church. The session ended with His Eminence giving each student a blessing and copy of the New Testament in Greek to mark the occasion of their visit.

After this busy week, the students were hosted for a warm Farewell Dinner at the UINDY Cultural Center at the Roman Agoura. On our last day, the students were taken on a short boat trip to the island of Aegina to mark the conclusion of their first session of the Journey to Greece.

WEEK 2 – JUNE 29TH – JULY 5TH

Once settled, the students were gathered together to have lunch in our local taverna. In the late afternoon, our students were taken to the historic Acropolis! This year, ERT, Greek





Team from US universities and the Greek National Junior Team! After a very close and exciting game, the AHEPA team prevailed and our students were able to meet both teams for a photo!

Thursday evening was a very special occasion for all of our students as they were hosted at a special formal reception and dinner at the Pateras Villa, the luxurious residence of the famous Greek ship owner in the seaside resort of Vouliagmeni. The evening was covered by Greek television and featured a special introduction of the students on the Journey to Greece!

National Television, filmed and interviewed our students for an international broadcast from the Acropolis! Later, the students were joined by Supreme President Ike Gulas and Vice President Nick Karacosta before heading back down to the campus.

Day #2 was set for orientation, registration and general information for all of the students in our program. Classes began immediately following the registration process. Each student will be carrying a university load of two classes for 6 units. Our daily taverna lunch is provided by the program and serves as our daily briefing location as well.

In the evening, following the first day of class, our students were hosted by the AHEPA to the 86th Annual Supreme Convention Opening Ceremonies and reception! The students participated at this memorable evening attended by all the AHEPA family delegates from the US, Canada, Australia, Greece and Cyprus. In addition, Foreign Minister Dora Bakoyianni was the official guest of the evening along with several other Greek government officials.

On Wednesday, July 2nd, again following a full day of classes, our students were again hosted by the AHEPA to participate in the Glendi Night at the Olympic venue of Goudi. Here the students enjoyed a traditional meal, entertainment of a Greek dance troupe and a fun filled night of dancing around the Olympic pool.

On Thursday, July 3rd, our students were invited to a special Symposium hosted by AHEPA Hellas District at the Zappion Center of Athens. Dr. Dimitriou and a panel of speakers presented their papers on the topic of the future of Hellenism in the 21st Century.

Thursday afternoon, the students were taken to the main Olympic site where our students were treated to a basketball game between the AHEPA All Star

On July 4th, our students had another special day of events! Today, they attended another Symposium at the Zappion, where they heard Mr. Tom Countryman, the Deputy Chief of Mission of the U.S. Embassy, give a talk on US-Greek Foreign Policy. Included on the panel was Dr. Stephen Miller of UC Berkeley and the famous Nemean Archaeological dig as well as Dr. Dimitriou.

The 4th of July would not be the same without a traditional BBQ! In the evening the students were transported by coach to the Glyfada Golf Course for dinner and a night of Greek dancing! Although fire conditions would prevent a fireworks show, the evening was one of enjoyment for all that attended! Some of our students even participated in the golf tournament during the day, before attending the event!

On Saturday, July 5th, the 86th Annual AHEPA Supreme Convention came to a close at the Grand Banquet held at the Athenaeum Inter Continental Hotel. Students again were hosted to a wonderful banquet and given a special tribute, along with Journey Director Dr. Dimitriou, by AHEPA Supreme President Ike Gulas. A wonderful evening spent by all ending a very eventful and historic week for our students!



AGAPE CHAPTER AWARDS TWO SCHOLARSHIPS



On AHEPA Sunday May 18th, the Agape Chapter 336 of Wyckoff, NJ presented their scholarship awards to two young adults. Pictured in the center are the scholarship winners, Demetra Kalamarides and Vasilios Ikonomidis. They are flanked by their parents. From the left is Demetra's father, Andrew, Demetra's grandmother and her mother Thalía. To the right of Vasilios is his mother Demi Calyvas. To Demi's right are Agape Scholarship Committee members Connie Mellides and Rosemary Psomas. Also serving on the committee but not pictured were Rea Hunter and Valerie Vittas.

Agape Chapter 336 Sponsors Annual Mother's Day Dinner for Local Battered Women's Shelter



Once again the sisters of Agape Chapter 336 of Wyckoff, NJ have rallied to the aid of the Shelter Our Sisters, aka SOS, the only battered women's facility in Bergen County, NJ that provides safety, strength and hope for victims of domestic violence. Car loads of donations such as diapers, clothes and essentials along with trays of delicious foods prepared by our brother, the AHEPA Supreme Governor Himself, Louis Arvanitis and was delivered by Sister Connie Vogis of the Agape 336.

In addition to the annual Mother's Day Dinner, members of the Agape Chap-

ter continue to express the Hellenic "philotimo" throughout the year by collecting monetary donations, new householding items as well as new clothing and new toys for the shelter. Money donations and new items are also collected for the clients during the Christmas holidays and are delivered by chapter members.

Approximately ten years ago, the Agape Chapter was honored by SOS for their continued support and outreach to the shelter and its five transitional homes throughout the Bergen County Community.

NEWS FROM ALEXANDER 250 RANDOLPH

We had a busy ending to our year. Daughters from Alexander 250 were visible supporting several District events. We had representation at the Spring Luncheon, the "Day at the Races", and the District Convention.

May 18th we held an AHEPA Memorial honoring all deceased members of our AHEPA Family. President Anna Zavros presented Father John Theodosian with a copy of,



Greek Mythology Jigsaw a puzzle book to be added to the St. Andrew church library. We also hosted the community fellowship hour following church services.

Scholarships were awarded to three deserving graduates. Hanna Boyiadjis, Rachael Boyiadjis, and Stephanie Daley received their honors at a community wide recognition ceremony. Our winners were honored along with the St. Andrew Community Sunday School students. Congratulations to them for their outstanding achievements. May they find success in all of their future endeavors.

Our year closed with a long standing St. Andrew tradition. We traditionally, end our year with a combined Daughters/Philoptochos dinner. This year was no different. We enjoyed a lovely dinner at the Publik House Restaurant in Chester, NJ and wished everyone a safe and restful summer.

We look forward to September and to another fruitful year. In closing, President Anna Zavros and the members of Alexander #250 congratulate DG Demi Thomas on her reelection and pledge another year of support for her and her Lodge.

MARION ECONOMO- PDG/DOP

AMPHITRYON CHAPTER 173 Had Great Time in Stamna Restaurant



Amphitryon Chapter had their end of year luncheon at the “Stamna” restaurant in Bloomfield New Jersey on Saturday June 28, 2008. District Governor Demi Thomas was in attendance and everyone had a very enjoyable time.

The District Governor presented the Chapter President, Sister Irene Willcox with a certificate stating that Irene is like the energizing battery that goes on and on. Irene has been a daughter for many years and also served as District Governor in the past.

Sister Irene presented a thirty-five year pin to Sister Diana Statliopoulos. Diana was pleasantly surprised.

Everyone present enjoyed the delicious servings of Greek food but more than anything they enjoyed the camaraderie among their fellow sisters. It was a nice ending to the year. Everyone is looking forward to another fruitful year when we return in September.

Mary Marolakos
Recording Secretary



JOHN DASKOS OF EVZONE JAMES PLEVRETTIS CHAPTER #405 NEW ROCHELLE, NY IS HONORED



Major John Daskos displaying his award to Chapter President Joe Keane and Jim Zafiros VP Membership

Brother John Daskos, a 28 year member of the James Plevritis Evzone Chapter #405, is a Major in the New York State National Guard's 42nd Rainbow Division, based at Camp Smith. He has served with distinction for the past 15 years and his responsibilities include the planning and logistical support for all the Guard's military conferences. He is pictured here displaying his most recent commendation award with Chapter President Joseph C. Keane and Vice President for Membership, James Zafiros. Major Daskos' military regimen carries over into the Chapter's initiation ceremonies where, as Captain of the Guard, he has participated in the Chapter's growth from 62 to 110 in the last three years. Brother Daskos is also a former President of Holy Trinity's Greek Orthodox Church in New Rochelle, New York and an Archon of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.

OBITUARY

George Stavrianidis

Mr. Stavrianidis was born in Russia, and lived in Greece and Queens, N.Y., before moving to the Somerset area in 1979. He was a member of St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Piscataway, and a member of the American Hellenic Educational Progression Association, Monroe Chapter 75. Mr. Stavrianidis was a supporter of Greek Letter and Education and, while living in Queens, he was one of the founders of the local Pontian Hellenic Association (Komninoi Association).



Mr. Stavrianidis was the founder and owner of Venus Jewelers in Somerset. He retired 10 years ago, but could often still be found at the store.

Mr. Stavrianidis is survived by his wife of 62 years, Elena Thalassinidis Stavrianidis of Somerset; their children, Peter Stavrianidis and his wife, Maggie of Somerset, and Dorothy Fountoukidis and her husband, Tassos of Branchburg. He is also survived by a sister, Chrissoula Apostolidis of Greece, and his grandchildren, George, Jason and Constantine Stavrianidis of Somerset and Ilias Fountoukidis.

Please consider donations in Mr. Stavrianidis' name to the St. George Greek Orthodox Church Greek School, 1101 River Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854.

Hudson County AHEPA Chapter 108 And The Daughters of Penelope Icarius Chapter 48 of Jersey City

Proudly Announce

THE 11TH ANNUAL GRECIAN OKTOBERFEST

Evangelismos Greek Orthodox
Community Center Hall

661 Montgomery Street - Jersey City

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, 2008

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For a truly unique fun evening of
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Entrance Fee \$ 15
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OBITUARY

Very Reverend Archimandrite Nektarios N. Kogias

July 7, 1967 – May 7, 2008

Born in Agria, Volos, Greece on July 7, 1967, the son of Nicholas and Eleni Kogias with the baptismal name of Kyriakos.

Following his formal education he continued his studies at the Theological College of Athens. Upon graduation he continued his Ecclesiastic duties at the Patriarchate of Jerusalem and was ordained a monk in April of 1988 and served until he came to America in 1990.



In 1992 with the Blessing of Archbishop Iakovos he returned to Greece and was ordained a Priest and Archimandrite with the name of his Patron Saint Nektarios by his Eminence Dodonis Chrysostomos Metropolitan of Zakynthos.

He served the Parish of Evangelismos Tis Theotokou as presiding priest, with love and devotion, from 1992 until the present.

He survived in Greece by his beloved sister Angeliki and her husband Taki Kapourniotis and two nephews Konstantinos and Nicholas; dear friends Eva and John Mehos, President of Evangelismos Greek Orthodox Church, the entire community of Evangelismos tis Theotokou, and many dear friends in Astroria.

He was an avid supporter of the Order of AHEPA and a member of Hudson Chapter #108. During PDG Andrew Zachariades term as Chapter President, he was acknowledged as Honorary Chaplain of our Chapter and presented with a special Chaplain's Jewel by President Andrew. His last official duty for our beloved order was to offer the prayer at a dinner, sponsored by Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis honoring Supreme President Ike Goulas.

Many Ahepans paid their last respects and unfortunately we could not do a funeral ritual because he was waked in the Church of Evangelismos tis Theotokou. PDG Andrew Zachariades laid an olive branch wreath in his casket. On behalf of my sister Eva, myself, Chris Genes, President and the members of Hudson Chapter #108 we would like to express our thanks to those that attended and honored his Memory.

ΑΙΩΝΙΑ ΤΟΥ Η ΜΝΗΜΗ

Respectfully Submitted,
John A. Mehos, Past Supreme Governor

ICARIUS CHAPTER #48- JERSEY CITY



END OF YEAR DINNER (left to right): Connie Clokas, Maria Varianides, Sandra Vardakis, Maria Karras, Delores Behlos, Dorothea Polychronis, Christina Polychronis, Elaine P. Mehos, Helen Regan, District Governor Demi Thomas and Helen Vorrius

The Sisters of Icarus were saddened with the passing of Father Nectarios Kogias. Father was not only our spiritual leader but also our fellow brother from Hudson #108. Father's passing was prior to the celebrating of AHEPA Sunday. Our joint plans of celebrating this day were still held with our fellow brothers. A mnymosino and artoclasia were held after Sunday services. Father Dionysios spoke highly of the Success of the AHEPA family and read Archbishop Demetrios' letter to the congregation. He also asked all the members of the AHEPA family to come to the altar for his blessings and asked me to read the English version of the Archbishop's letter to the congregation. After church the sisters served an Easter brunch to the parishioners. A raffle was held with over a dozen gifts cho-

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Andrew C. Zachariades
Controller

sen by the lucky winners.

At our May meeting we held elections. Our new officers are President Evelyn Vardakis PDG, Vice-President Sandra Vardakis, Secretary Maria Karras and Treasurer Dorothea Polychronis. We wish the newly elected board continued success in the upcoming year.

In June we held a joint celebratory dinner at the Crow's Nest. Our brothers honored those Ahepans with 50 years of service as well as others for their dedicated years within the AHEPA. The Sisters honored our 25 year members. District Governor Demi Thomas, Past District Governors Antoinette Marousis and Evelyn Vardakis assisted me in pinning the



PDG Antoinette Marousis places the 25 year membership pin on Delores Behlos as President Christina Polychronis watches on.

sisters with their 25 year pins. Those honored were; Delores Behlos, Connie Chokas, Elaine P. Mehos, Mary Tevietidis, Sandra Vardakis, Maria Varianides and Maria Zachariades. Each of these sisters has contributed in every way possible to make our chapter a successful chapter. The night included words of congratulations from both our District Governor and Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis. The night was one enjoyed by all and added to the history of both chapters.

We were saddened to bear of the passing of Father Paul Koutoukas our former pastor. A mnymosino was held in June which the AHEPA Family attended. May he rest in peace. Father Paul was our fellow brother as well as our spiritual leader. His loyalty was always to Hudson #108.

Our next event will be our joint hosting of our Octoberfest on October 4th. As in the past your ticket will gain you access to the evening activities, a delicious buffet dinner and an opportunity to win a raffle present. Contact any sister or brother of the Jersey City AHEPA Family for your tickets and more information.

See you there.
Christina Polychronis



Memories from our District Convention

By District Governor Demi Thomas



The District Convention was held in Cherry Hill New Jersey this June. Demi Thomas was reelected District Governor. The new District Lodge officers are: Karen Marousis, District Lt. Governor, Rula Thasistes, District Secretary, Robin Paggiannis District Treasurer, Zoe Komninos, District Marshal and Antoinette Marousis, District Advisor.

I would like to thank the host chapter, Cherry Hill Daughters for a job well done. The out pouring of hospitality and love was evident everywhere you looked, from the homemade pastries for breakfast to the memorable evening of fun and dancing. It was not only a very successful convention but a well attended one.

Memories from our Supreme Convention

By District Governor Demi Thomas



Barbara Stavis was elected Grand President of the Daughters of Penelope at the National Convention in Athens Greece. It was a very beautiful and moving convention. To be in the city of our ancestors surrounded by their history is something that will not be forgotten soon. Demi Thomas, our District Governor, served as convention vice-chairman.

Many activities were held around the city. The first night was held at the Zappion, WOW! It was a night to be remembered. The setting was beautiful. The speakers included Minister Bakoyiannis, Archbishop Demetrios, and President of Parliament Skoufos. These speakers were inspirational and the ambience of the event was unforgettable.

The New Jersey contingent then followed tour guide Sammy Thomas to his favorite restaurant in the Plaka, to celebrate our first night in Athens.

The week was filled with many entertaining and interesting activities. Many nights were spent contemplating life, and making plans for the rest of the week, while looking at the beautiful Akropolis each evening. If you ask anyone who attended this year's convention, a good time was had by all.

AHEPA Trenton Chapter No. 72

With the officers and with all the brothers we will endeavor to have another great year. Throughout the year, we have many scheduled events and projects that everyone should enjoy.

Most recently, the Fifth District had its convention wherein Brother Ted Fanikos was elected District Governor for the 5th District and it is also the Trenton Chapter's honor that we will be hosting the 2009 District Convention. In addition, at the AHEPA National Convention held in Athens, Brother Lee Millas was elected to the National Board of Trustees and will again serve with honor. Congratulations and best wishes to Brother Lee.

On June 25th, the Trenton Chapter had its award/scholarship night. Past District Governor for the Daughters of Penelope Joyce Allen was the keynote speaker and inspired the students and those in attendance. Medals and bonds were presented to outstanding Greek School students: Sotirios Spireas, Alexandra Theodorakopoulos, & Peter Randazzo and thanks extended to Ms. Sophia. Certificates were presented to graduating high schools seniors George Cokenakes, Irene Michailides, Eleni Pysllos, Christina Kapsimalis, Kalliope Rose, Greg Hoffman, Philip Russopoulos, Steven Demitry, Alexandra Woodrick,



Trenton Chapter#72 presents scholarships to 5 graduating seniors

Dimitri Vlamis and Steven Balalis. Certificates were also presented to graduating collegians Constantine G. Rose, Steven G. Rose, Christina Wood and Evridike Kollis.

Elias Perris presented the Emanuel Perris Memorial award to Eleni Pysllos. Andy Linardos presented the Kostas Linardos Memorial award to Christine Kapsimalis. Chris Blazakis presented the John & Lula Blazakis Memorial award to Dimitri Vlamis. A chapter awarded was presented to George



Photo from our fishing excursion

Cokenakes. Spiro Spireas presented the Spireas-Sigmapharm Laboratories award to Kalliopi Rose. Lee Millas presented a chapter award to Irene Michailides. Lee Millas also presented the two Colonial Valley Conference student athlete scholarships to Christine Petrilla of Steinert and Richard Nuel of Hamilton West. All the students and their families should be proud.

On Friday, July 25th, we participated in the "Day at the Race" at Monmouth Park. The weather was beautiful and all the brothers enjoyed themselves. Following the event, the brothers partook in dinner at "It's Greek to Me." Moreover, on Monday, July 28th a dinner meeting was held at Kouzina by Sophia wherein the food was delicious and the company superb. We are also planning another dinner meeting for August 18th at another Ahepan's establishment.

We also had a fishing excursion on Thursday, July 31st. We took a cruise on the charter boat, the Royal Belmar Princess, in search for fluke. Everyone had a good time and many of us had fluke dinners. Congratulations to Andy Pantelides for the first "catch of the day" and for most catches; and to Lee Millas for the biggest catch of the day. Thanks to Dino "Fisherman" Zimnes for all his work, assistance and expertise. We hope to have another outing in August and/or September and all are welcome.

We will be attending one of the last Yankee games at the stadium on August 16th. Thanks to Athletic Director Sim Ronchonchou for organizing same. Speaking of athletics, the 7th Annual Trenton Chapter Golf Outing will be held on October 14th at Mountain View Golf Course in Ewing. This event is open all members of the St. George Community and $\pm\frac{1}{2}$ your friends.

We are also planning a Pancake Breakfast with the Daughters of Penelope. This should be a fun event and should be a good fundraiser for both of our organizations.

Our next business meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 8th and installation of our officers with the Daughters of Penelope officers will be conducted on Monday, September 22nd.

ORDER OF AHEPA – John G. Thevos District No. 5

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM YEAR 2008



Irene Michailides



Alexandra Pappas



Peter Sulich



James Lambridis



Catherine Zymaris



Alexandra Kalamaridis



William Liapis

The Scholarship Committee of the 5th District Scholarship Program is pleased to announce that this year we were able to present awards totaling Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) to worthy young people of our Ahepa Fifth District. Applications were sent to all chapters to be distributed in their Ahepa communities. We received twenty completed applications. Of this number we were able to present seven awards.

This year, we enlisted the aid of a professor from Georgetown University in Washington DC. The professor is Dr. Diane Apostolos-Capadona, Adjunct Professor of Religious Art and Cultural History. In her letter she commented that she selected the following seven students in terms of scholarly achievements, community orientation, and academic promise. The scholarship awards were as follows:

Irene Michailides received an award of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000). She graduated from Notre Dame High School, Lawrenceville, New Jersey. She was sponsored by Trenton Chapter No.72, Trenton, New Jersey. Irene will be entering Villanova University majoring in the field of Medicine.

Alexandra S. Pappas received an award of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000). She graduated from Ranney School, Tinton Falls, New Jersey. She was sponsored by Thomas A. Edison Chapter No.287, Asbury Park, New Jersey. Alexandra will be entering Franklin and Marshall College, majoring in Fine Arts.

Peter Sulich received an award of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000). He graduated from Hillsborough High School, Hillsborough, New Jersey. He was sponsored by Alexander Hamilton Chapter No.54, Paramus, New Jersey. Peter will be entering University of Maryland, majoring in engineering.

James Lambridis received an award of One Thousand Dollars

(\$1,000). He graduated from Wayne Valley High School, Wayne, New Jersey. He was sponsored by Alexander Hamilton Chapter No. 54, Paramus, New Jersey. James will be entering Penn State University, majoring in Business Administration featuring in Finances.

Catherine Zymaris received an award of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000). (This award is from National Headquarters). She graduated from Ridgewood High School, Ridgewood, New Jersey. She was sponsored by Ramapo Chapter No.453, Wyckoff, New Jersey. Catherine will be entering the College of New Jersey majoring in the sciences feature Biology.

Demetra Kalamaridis received an award of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500). She graduated from Mahwah High School, Mahwah, New Jersey. She was sponsored by Ramapo Chapter No.453, Wyckoff, New Jersey. Demetra will be entering University of Massachusetts, majoring in the Sciences.

William Liapis received an award of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500). He graduated from Christian Brothers Academy, Lincroft, New Jersey. He was sponsored by Garden State Chapter No. 517, Holmdel, New Jersey. William will be entering University of Rochester majoring in Theoretical Math.

The members of the Scholarship Committee would like to congratulate the recipients and wish them good luck in their college education and their future endeavors. The names of the awardees were acknowledged at our Annual District Convention at the Daughters of Penelope Luncheon held in the Quality Inn/Grand Versailles Restaurant on Saturday afternoon, May 31st.

Before I close, the scholarship committee would like to thank those Chapters in our District who supported the Scholarship Fund by paying their per capita tax to our fund.

AHEPA FIFTH DISTRICT CELEBRATES ITS 77TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

MAPLE SHADE, NEW JERSEY



The Fifth District convention was held on May 30, 31 and June 1, 2008 at the Quality Inn and Grand Versailles in Maple Shade, New Jersey. The convention was hosted by Ahepa Camden Chapter #69 and Daughters Nike Chapter #230. The convention will go down in history as one of the best attended conventions and set the course for AHEPA's future in District 5.

The District Convention was highly successful as a three day happening. The convention started on Friday with a first-ever Camden hosted District Golf tournament. The tournament was held at the Ramblewood Country Club in Mount Laurel, NJ. The contingent of golfers went through 18 holes hacking away at some of the most expensive real estate in New Jersey. The golfers received special commemorative Ahepa hats as well as tees and balls, most of which were lost to the course. The best score of the day went to John Giambanis. Closest to the pin was won by Trenton's Ted Golfinopoulos (no that name was not made up).

After the golf tournament, the local chapter hosted a poolside welcome reception at the hotel. The sound of island music and smell of a cook-out was the perfect combination to cap the day. Also, many amongst the crowd shared memories and photos of their days in the Sons and Maids. The evening was capped off by the opening of convention business as our immediate Past District Governor, Ted Vit-

tas, was elected to chair the business meetings.

On Saturday the convention delegates were treated to a continental breakfast. There was also an impressive archives display from Camden Chapter 69 put together by Stelios Theodoris. Brother Past District Governor Chris Diamantoukos highlighted in his report to the delegates the effort put forth by our District for the Greek Wildfires Relief, both monetarily as well as the Care Packages put forth by our chapters. Other highlights of the business meetings included the Fifth District's Hellenic Cultural programming and a rededication to that cause. During the year, with the help of fundraising by chapters district wide, the district was able to sponsor many worthwhile events including a district presentation by the Cypriot Ambassador to the United States, Andrew Kakouris. AHEPA pledged to continue it's support of such events throughout the district and coordinate and market them better, big and small.

The convention marked a first time appearance by the newest chapter in our domain, Clifton - Liberty Chapter #532. This Chapter was commended for it's first fundraiser, a Casino Night to raise funds for families with autism. We hope to see much more from our new brothers of Clifton.





Kalos Eerthate !

The Cancer Foundation and District Scholarship committees also made impressive reports to the delegates. Brother PDG Andrew Zachariades and the board were commended for another highly successful Gala.

Supreme Governor of Ahepa Region 3, PDG Louis Arvanitis also was recognized and provided his report. He stated that nationwide more than \$250,000 was raised for victims of Greek Wildfires and he spoke of the immense effort brought forth on the care packages by our district.

The highlight of the business meeting was the elevation of Ted Fanikos (Trenton) to the office of District Governor. The incoming District Governor provided his remarks and thanked all in attendance. District Governor Ted Fanikos took the oath of office and will be joined on the lodge by Lieutenant Governor Phil Vogis, District Secretary George G. Horiates, District Treasurer Savas Tsivicos, District Marshall Bill Harrison, District Warden Sammy Thomas and District Athletic Director Nick Mariolis.

The evening concluded with a Grand Banquet with over 180 people in attendance. Member of Ahepa Board of Trustees , PDG Lee Millas presented the Supreme Governor, PDG Louis Arvantis with an award recognizing his life contributions to the Order as well as presented a watch



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to outgoing District Governor Chris Diamantoukos. PDG Chris Diamantoukos recognized the efforts of Asteris Fanikos regarding the Care Packages as he was presented with a special award. Trenton Chapter 72 was named as Chapter of the Year. Chapter President of the Year was Eleftherios Klekos from Chapter 162 - Vineland. Chapter Secretary of the Year was Semos Kotsidakis from Chapter 287- Asbury Park. The awards concluded with the naming of District Ahepan of the Year Michael Kouvatias of Camden Chapter. All recipients gave gracious remarks.

The evening was topped off by dancing traditional Greek dancing. Special thanks go out to the local hosting chapters for a fun filled and productive weekend.

Lastly, Sunday brought forth a strong contingent at Saint Thomas Greek Orthodox Church in Cherry Hill, New Jersey where a memorial service on behalf of all deceased AHEPANs was performed by Fr. Emmanuel Pratsinakis. The chapter hosted a complimentary farewell luncheon with many in attendance and opened up it's Ahepa Hall to visitors as part of it's Ahepa Day celebration.

Camden 69 and Nike 230 are to be commended for showing us a wonderful time, for facilitating a highly energetic weekend and for showing all of us that special FILOXENIA that is truly a trait of the Order of Ahepa.

Submitted by George Horiates

SAVE THE DATE

The 5th District AHEPA Cancer Research Foundation, Inc.

19TH ANNUAL FALL GALA

Saturday, November 1, 2008

Pines Manor, Edison, New Jersey

Cocktail hour begins at 6:30 p.m. followed By Dinner

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE HONOR
THE FOUNDATION'S 2008 GRAND RECIPIENTS

Axios Award Recipient
Dr. William Hait

An Evening of Dinner
and Dancing—Music by Alpha
Donation: \$85.00 – Cash Bar

AHEPA RE-ELECTS IKE GULAS SUPREME PRESIDENT

Athens Supreme Convention Viewed as a Success



WASHINGTON -- The delegates of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), re-elected Supreme President Ike Gulas at its 86th Annual Supreme Convention in Athens. Gulas ran unopposed in an election that was held Sunday, July 6.

“I am truly honored to have the confidence of the membership and be re-elected in this capacity,” said Gulas. “I look forward to working with the Supreme Lodge to build upon the work we started this past year, and to also build upon the momentum generated from the Athens convention, which all agree, was a tremendous success.

Gulas is a member of Birmingham Chapter No. 3, and has served AHEPA in numerous capacities including Supreme Vice President,

Supreme Counselor, and as a member of the Board of Directors.

2008 – 09 Supreme Lodge

Many of the members of the previous Supreme Lodge will continue their responsibilities into the next administrative year.

The 2008-09 Supreme Lodge will be comprised of: Supreme Vice President Nicholas Karacostas, Bayside, N.Y.; Canadian President Nick Aroutzidis, Ontario; Supreme Secretary Dr. John Grossomanides, Jr., Westerly, R.I.; Supreme Treasurer Anthony Kouzounis, Houston; Supreme Counselor John Galanis, Elm Grove, Wisc.; and Supreme Athletic Director Dr. Monthe N. Kofos, Marlboro, Mass.

The eight Supreme Governors are: Charles Stamoulis, Seminole, Fla.; John Mesogitis, Venetia, Penn.; Louis Arvanitis,





Montvale, N.J.; Constantine Calliontzis, Dedham, Mass.; Philip G. Giavasis, Canton, Ohio; Tom Gober, Highland, Ind.; Peter Kaldis, Houston, and Nick Perdaris, Van Nuys, Calif.

Elected to the Board of Trustees are Past Supreme President James Scofield, St. Petersburg, Fla., and Past Chairman of the Board Lee J. Millas, Trenton, N.J. Vasilios Albanos, Ph.D., Darien, Ill., was re-elected to the Board of Auditors.

A Successful Return to Athens

Looking back on the week, the return of the AHEPA family to Greece after 38 years was a triumphant one, according to Supreme President Ike Gulas.

“The convention served as a platform to explore and showcase

how the AHEPA family can be a dependable, vibrant, and sturdy bridge between North America and Greece,” said Gulas. “I am confident we succeeded in meeting our goals. We exceeded our expectations for attendance, and we were also able to organize cultural and educational programs that featured our youth. Many participants, young and old, visited Greece for the first time, or became re-acquainted with the Greece of the 21st century.”

He added, “Throughout the week, we had significant participation from the American Embassy, led by Ambassador Daniel Speckhard, and Greek government officials, and they all helped to make our return a triumphant one. Going forward, we would like to do more to build upon this momentum.”

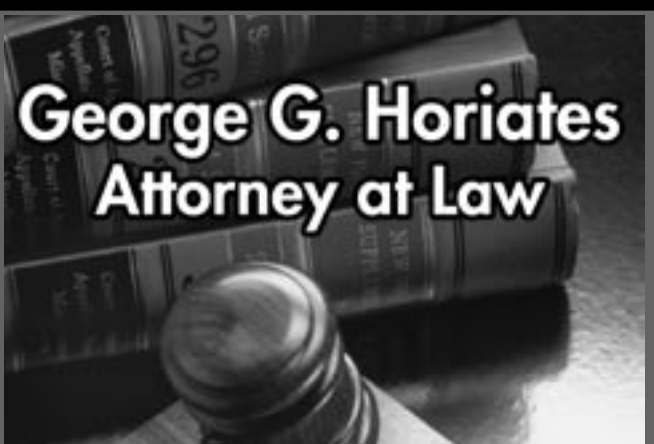
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George G. Horiates
Attorney at Law

Member of NJ & PA Bars and US Supreme Court

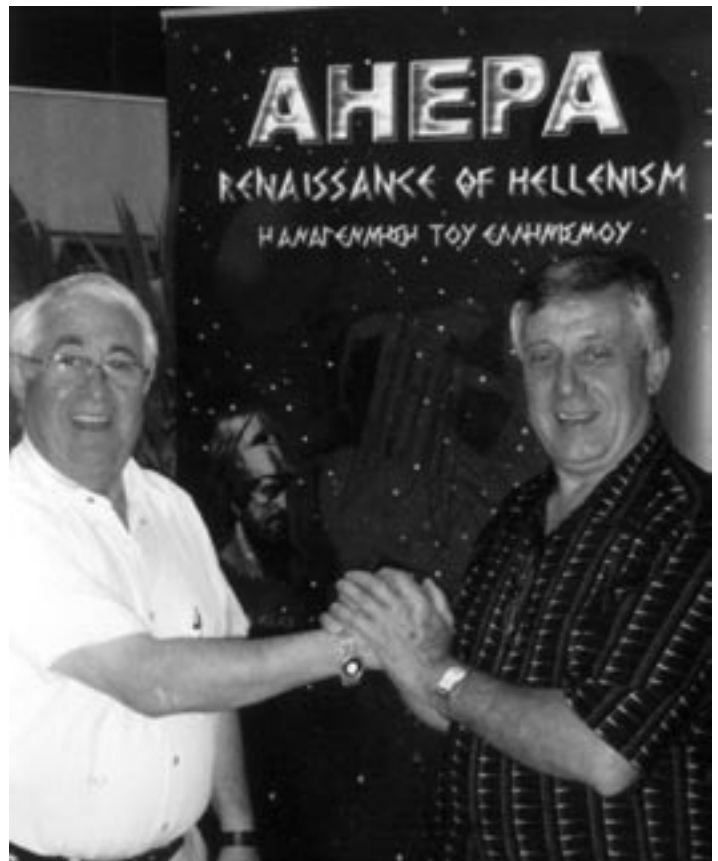
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Photo Memories for our Brothers from District 6



LEARNING OUR PAST

History of South Jersey Chapter 162 Vineland



South Jersey Chapter 162 started in 1928. For many years we met in homes of members.

The idea was to teach the English language, so we made it a rule to always speak English at meetings.

We were the host South Chapter 162 for the District #5 in Atlantic City Convention, June 10, 11 & 12, 1961.

The South Jersey Chapter 162 was instrumental in starting St. Anthon Greek Orthodox Church 430 W. Wheat Road, Vineland, NJ. We also purchased St. Anthony Community Center, 310 West Wheat Road with 11 acres of ground, where we hold our Annual Greek Festival. We also hold our Greek School classes there and give certificates to our students.

We offer a scholarship from the Greek Orthodox Church of St. Anthony. We have been sending donations through canisters at local restaurants, the Fox Chase Center of Philadelphia, the Cancer Institute of New Jersey, the Hackensack Medical Center.

EUREKA SCHOLARSHIPS



Alethea Critides was awarded \$400 by Eureka Chapter #52. Alethea is the granddaughter of life member Dr. Charles Critides. She will be attending West Virginia University.

Michael Hoffman was awarded \$400 by Eureka Chapter #52. Michael is the grandson of Past President Roy Soppas. He will be attending Hofstra University.

OCEAN COUNTY NEWS

On May 16-18, 2008, the Ocean County AHEPA Family sponsored its second annual Spring Festival called "A Taste of Greece." The AHEPA has made a commitment to purchase the interior furnishings for the Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in Toms River that are needed for the church's consecration. The interior church furnishings include the bishop's throne, chanter's stand, the second bishop's chair in the altar, and the candle stand and candle boxes in the narthex. The Spring Festival is a fundraiser that the AHEPA sponsors for the purchase of the church's furnishings. At the last Spring Festival, there was authentic Greek cuisine, Greek pastries, a bar, outdoor tents, a DJ, dancing by the GOYA and the youth dance groups, grilled souvlakia, loukoumades, frappés, gyros, children's games, and pony rides. As a result of the Spring Festival, the AHEPA presented a \$20,000 check to the church.

Lou Karagias – President

Ahepa Voice – SUMMER/FALL 2008

Scholarships Honoring the Memory of George P. Nestor

Michael Mercaso and Zachary Zachariades have been named the first winners of the George P. Nestor Memorial Scholarship. Although only one scholarship was planned to be awarded, the selection committee felt that two recipients were worthy of receiving the scholarship. The \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded annually to a graduating senior in memory of Mr. Nestor who was a long time, active member at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Atlantic City. George coached both girls and boys Greek Orthodox youth basketball teams, served on the parish council, including several terms as president of the group. He was also an active member of AHEPA, American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, and served that organization as District Governor of the New Jersey and Delaware area chapters.

Michael Mercado is the son of Luis and Demetria Mercado of Cape May Court House. His family is a member of St. Anthony's Greek Orthodox Church in Wildwood, Michael is a 2008 graduate of Middle Township High School. Michael will be attending Hellenic College Holy Cross Creek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, Massachusetts where he plans to study religion. His plans are to become a Greek Orthodox priest. While in high school he was a member of the golf team, class president for 3 years, and an active member and officer in the student council, a member and lead roll in the mock trial team as well as involved with local politics. At St. Anthony's Michael was a member of the Greek Orthodox

Youth of America and an altar boy.

The other scholarship recipient, Zachary Zachariades is a member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Bargaintown. He is the son of Peter and Donna Zachariades of Egg Harbor Township. He is a 2008 graduate of Saint Augustine Preparatory High School. He will attend the University of Tampa in the fall where he will major in business. While in high school he was a member of the freshman, JV and varsity baseball team as well as active in SADD, math, and environment clubs. Zachary was active in Greek Orthodox Youth of American as well as serving as Vice president. He was active in the grand opening of the church, with the spaghetti dinners as well as volunteering at the annual Greek Festival, His community service was extensive not only in his church but also with summer and winter baseball camps, Big Brother, and numerous other volunteer programs in the community.

Additional contributions to the scholarship fund are being sought in order to build the balance to increase the available funds and endow the scholarship. Donations to the George P. Nestor Memorial Scholarship can be sent to the Bank of America, 221 New Jersey Avenue, Absecon, N.J. 08201 or directly to Sophie P. Nestor, 601 Sooy Lane, Absecon, N.J. 08201. Please make checks payable to the: George P. Nestor Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Scholarship applications will be available each spring from the Greek Orthodox churches distributed by members of the Nestor family.



SAVE THE DATE!!

7th Annual
AHEPA
Golf Classic

Tuesday
October 14, 2008

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GOLF COURSE
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SHOTGUN STARTS
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RAMAPO NEWS



President Sammy Thomas (right) presents Bob Lemond (left) with the chapter Ahepan of the Year plaque.

At the Chapter's May 20th meeting of the Ramapo Chapter 453 of Wyckoff, NJ, new officers were elected in a single unanimous ballot. The new officers, who will be sworn in at our September 23rd meeting, are:

- President Elect Jim Giokas, who has served with distinction as Chapter Vice President this past year;
- Vice President Elect Paul Savidis, who has ably lead the annual



President Sammy Thomas (left) presents John Komninos with his Lifetime Achievement Award.

AHEPA Smoker Fund raiser for 5 years, and also lead other Chapter activities such as the St. Nicholas Gym committee and the AHEPA Family Day;

- Secretary Elect Jon Zymaris, who has lead the Chapter Education & Scholarship committee;
- Treasurer Elect George Mellides, who is returning to the office he held several years ago.

PANDA AXIA! Please congratulate the new officers and wish them every success.

Our annual end of year dinner meeting took place on Tuesday, June 17th at the Oceanus Restaurant. Brother Peter Pantaleakis prepared a wonderful arrangement of mezedes and other delights for us.

At the dinner meeting it was announced that the Ramapo


AHEPAN of the Year was Past Vice President Bob Lemond. Other awards were also distributed for meritorious service. A Lifetime Achievement Award was given to John Komninos. The chapter presented a Service to the Community Award to our brother Tony Triant for his work with the Boy Scouts of America and St. Basil's Acad-



Brothers of the Ramapo Chapter enjoy an evening of fellowship at their May dinner meeting. Pictured from the left is Past President Steven Bojekian, President Elect Jim Giokas, Nick Karras, Secretary elect John Zymaris, Past President Gus Kolovos, Mike Drivas, and District Lt. Governor Phil Vogis.

emy. Also presented were service pins to Ahepans who achieved membership of 25 years or more. The chapter was also honored with an icon of St. Nicholas that was presented by Fr. James Moulketis, our pastor.

On May 18th, our Chapter announced three recipients of our Chapter Scholarship Awards. A \$2,500 scholarship was awarded to Catherine Zymaris, and a \$1,500 scholarship was awarded each to Vasilios Ikonomidis and Demetra Kalamaridis. The award ceremony was conducted after church liturgy on AHEPA Sunday at St. Nicholas. Congratulations to the recipients! We are very, very proud of them and wish them every success.



8,000 FEET OVER HELL
A Great Book by Nick Constandelis

Nick Constandelis was President of AHEPA Chapter #54 in Paramus, NJ for 2 years.

I have also survived 35 combat missions over Japanese targets in a B-29 Superfighter in 1944 to 1945.

My book "8,000 Feet Over Hell" relates to these missions.

To obtain this book send a check of \$21.00 (shipping and handling included) to Nick Constandelis – 465 Valley Road – Clifton, NJ 07013

HONORING A GREAT AHEPAN

George Kalyvas Testimonial



On May 30, 2008, John Valedes Westchester Chapter #51 hosted a testimonial dinner in honor of George Kalyvas, Past District Governor for AHEPA District 6 (New York State). More than 70 guests were present at the Casa Rina restaurant in Thornwood, New York to honor Bro. George, including Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis and Past Chairman of the AHEPA Board of Trustees, Lee Millas, who both spoke in praise of Bro. George's devotion and service to AHEPA. Among the honors presented to Bro. George were proclamations from Westchester County Executive Andrew Spano, Yonkers Mayor Phil Amicone and New York State Senator Michael Spano, declaring the day to be "George Kalyvas Day".

ORDER OF AHEPA EMPIRE STATE DISTRICT #6



is sponsoring its Third
District-Wide Christmas Party

on Sunday
December 7, 2008
at 1 p.m.

Right after the Church Services
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The event is hosted by Coney Island Chapter #200



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GEORGE PAPAS : A DEDICATED INDIVIDUAL



George Papas showing his plaque with the current Bergen Knights Chapter Lodge. Michael Bonamos, Dr. James Baiyokos, George papas and Stephen Ferranti.



Posing with honoree George Papas is Dr. James Baiyokos, Chapter Vice President, President Stephen Ferranti, honoree George Papas, PDG Andy Zachariades, Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis and Chapter Treasurer Michael Bonamos.

On Sunday, March 9th over 100 members of the Bergen Knights AHEPA family were joined by parishioners of the St. John the Theologian Cathedral to honor their past President of the Bergen Knights George N. Papas. The event was held at the elegant Seasons Restaurant in Washington Township, NJ.

George served the chapter as Presi-

dent for 6 years. He accepted the position when the chapter was reactivated by PSG George Righos in 2001. Under his leadership the chapter has prospered. Membership was increased. Money was raised and donated to the Cathedral at St. Johns and the chapter scholarship fund. The chapter held numerous fund raisers over those years that included an annual Comedy Night featuring Basile and two Texas

Holdem Tournaments.

George is now President of the parish of St. John's. Presenting him with awards on that evening was the chapter lodge, PDGs Ted Vittas, Andy Zachariades and Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis. Other speakers were the Very Reverend George Nikas, Rev. Tsigonis and Peter Lekas among others.

James Plevritis Evzone Chapter #405 Graduate Luncheon June 15th



Evzone's annual complimentary luncheon recognized 25 graduates, three of whom received AHEPA Educational Foundation scholarships and one received the Chapter's Journey to Greece scholarship. Brother Father Nicholas Anctil and Chapter President Joe Keane offered words of encouragement to the graduates. Over 150 Holy Trinity New Rochelle, New York parishioners were present to honor the graduates.



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ANTHONY PAPAMARKOS
SPYROS GEORGATOS



**WEDDINGS AND BANQUETS
BUSINESS AND SOCIAL FUNCTIONS**



SEN. MENENDEZ FIGHTS TO ENSURE TURKISH GOVERNMENT RESPECTS RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH'S ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE

WASHINGTON
- U.S. Senator
Robert Menendez
(D-NJ), a mem-
ber of the Senate
Foreign Rela-
tions Committee,
has introduced

legislation to urge the Government of Turkey to respect the rights and freedoms of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of the Orthodox Christian Church, in accordance with criteria necessary to join the European Union. The Ecumenical Patriarch is the leading figure in the Orthodox Church and has suffered from discriminatory treatment from the Turkish government.

“For a government to treat a revered religious institution and leader in such a discriminatory manner is an affront to human and religious rights and shows disrespect to the hundreds of millions of Orthodox Christians,” said Senator Menendez. “There must be fairness and freedom when it comes to the Turkish government’s treatment of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. As Turkey appeals to the European Union for membership, I would expect its treatment of the Ecumenical Patriarchate to be a prime topic that must be

addressed.”

Senator Menendez’s resolution, which is co-sponsored by Sens. Olympia Snowe (R-ME), Joseph Biden (D-DE) and Benjamin Cardin (D-MA), urges the Government of Turkey to respect the rights and religious freedoms of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of the Orthodox Christian Church. It calls on the Turkish government to immediately:

- Recognize the right to the title of “Ecumenical Patriarch”;
- Grant the Ecumenical Patriarch appropriate international recognition and ecclesiastic succession;
- Grant the Ecumenical Patriarch the right to train clergy of all nationalities, not just Turkish nationals; and
- Respect property rights and human rights of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

The Government of Turkey has sought membership in the European Union and maintains strong bilateral relations with the United States Government. The accession of Turkey to the European Union will depend on its adherence to the Copenhagen criteria that require candidate countries to have stable governmental institutions that guarantee human rights and that respect and protect minorities, including religious minorities such as Orthodox Christians.

MONROE #75 NEWS

Monroe #75 piscataway brother celebrating 91st birthday at our regular meeting on Wednesday March 26th.



Celebrating his 91st birthday Brother Gus Schadas was presented with a surprise birthday cake, pictured Stanley Geronelis President John Millas Secretary and Tom Kouridakis Vice President.

All Ahepan for 64 years brother Gus was initiated in Chapter # 41 Brooklyn New York in 1944. Then he was a member of Washington Rock #114 in Plainfield and now a member of Monroe Chapter #75 New Brunswick, NJ

Although retired for a long time Brother Gus is still active in the Ahepa and community affairs and he is a regular attendee at our meetings, he will always greets you with a smile and a warm hand shake.

Monroe Chapter #75 Celebrating March 25th

On Sunday March 23rd Monroe Chapter #75 celebrated Greek independence day at Saint George Greek Orthodox Church. At the conclusion of the service followed a doxology, the priest Father Alex Kile who is also a member of Monroe Chapter #75 led all the Ahepans and the entire congregation outside the Church by the flagpoles where both national anthems were sung and the flags were raised as taps played by a bugler.

At the conclusion of the service at the flagpoles the entire community was invited to the Ahepa Hall for a delicious Lenten luncheon that was prepared by several brothers of our Chapter.

Monroe Chapter has been sponsoring this event for many years.

MONROE CHAPTER NO. 75 OF NEW BRUNSWICK HOSTS ITS 45TH ANNUAL GRADUATES AFFAIR



On Sunday, June 1, after church service at the St. George Greek Orthodox church in Piscataway, NJ, Monroe Chapter No. 75 of the Order of AHEPA collaborated with the St. George GOYA to host its 45th Annual Graduate Luncheon which was held in the AHEPA Hall of the church. The program commenced with the GOYA presenting its program. The St. George youth was honored for their placing 4th in the State Sight & sound competition, and 5th place in the Junior Olympics competition. This is indication of the dedication and hard work of all who are involved in the youth program of the St. George. Upon completion of the GOYA program, the AHEPA program then commenced with Brother John Kazan serving as Honorary Chairman, both of whom are members of Monroe Chapter #75's Educational Committee. The AHEPA program commenced with the presentation of certificates to the 2008 high school and college graduates. This year there

were six high school graduates and two college graduates. The six high school graduates were:

Theoni Parais, East Brunswick High school
Antonis Psarakis, Bridgewater – Raritan High school
Hanna Lefteria Raqhim, Montgomery High school
Sophia Savva, Bridgewater – Raritan High school
Stanley Stellakis, St. Joseph High school
Peter Suhcle, Hillsborough High school

The two college graduates:

Joseph Bruno IV, University of Delaware
Karianne Cassidy, American University

Awards were presented to the following:

The AHEPA Medal for Scholarship Excellence was awarded to the graduating student of the St. George Greek School, who this year was Ioannis Christodoulidis with a cash award of \$100. The Daughter of Penelope Tethys Chapter #229 Scholarship Award in the amount of \$500 was awarded to Stanley Stellakis. The Milton Markakis Scholarship Award was awarded to two graduates who each received \$2000. They were Sophia Savva and Peter Suhcle. The AHEPA Family of New Brunswick congratulates all the graduates on reaching this milestone in their lives and wishes each of them KAI EIS ANOTERA!

Seen in the photo are from left to right Brothers Vassilis Keramidas, John Kazan, Stanley Yeroudelis, and the two recipients of the Milton Marikakis Scholarship Sophia Savva and Peter Suhcle

Alexander Hamilton Chapter #54

Recap of our yearly events. In March we hosted a Mardi Gras Dance which was very successful. Part of the proceedings were donated to St. Athanasios Church Parking Lot Fund.

In May we had two big events. The first one was the awarding of three scholarships to Greek American students. The names of the students are:

1. Peter Sulich \$1000, 2. James Lambrinidis \$500, 3. Sotirios Vanikiotis \$500

The second one is the meeting at the ouzeri of the AHEPA Group for the festival of the St. Athanasios Church.

In June, a special dinner was held at Eleni's Pancake House to benefit St. Athanasios Church parking lot. All proceedings were donated to the church.

AHEPA Liberty Chapter #532 Organizes its First Annual Monte Carlo Night

A Casino fun night was organised by Liberty Chapter #532 in Hanover Manor in East Hanover, NJ. It was a beautiful night full of pure fun, gambling and cool prizes. There was given a chip stack of \$100 to everyone of the participants. The event was accompanied with open bar and a great selection of hors d'oeuvres. Portion of the proceeds were given to support the Charity of the Parents of Autistic Children. It was a really unforgettable event and it will be definitely repeated next year.

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SONS OF PERICLES NEWS

Wyckoff Sons Hold Successful Elections Dean Tselepis Is Elected Supreme VP in New Orleans

Elections for the Patritha Chapter 317 from Wyckoff, New Jersey were held at a meeting in June. Winning the bid for Chapter President for 2008-2009 was Evan Katsikiotis. Chris Christodoulou was elected Vice President, Arthur Kominos, Secretary, Dean Tselepis Treasurer, and Joe Katsikiotis was appointed the prestigious position of Athletic Director. The chapter elected to donate approximately \$500 to the St. Nicholas Church youth programs. The money has been reserved towards buying a trophy case. Later that month, at the Sons of Pericles conference in New Orleans, brother Dean Tselepis was elected Sons Supreme Vice President. This is Dean's 3rd year on the Supreme Lodge. Congratulations to Dean and we are sure he will serve honorably.

Wyckoff Sons Chapter Hold 1st Summer Sports Day & More Planned

The Pathrida Chapter #317 organized a softball game at Crestwood Park in Allendale, New Jersey this past July. Ten sons and future Sons got together and played softball and ultimate frisbee which was followed with a BBQ lunch. Chefs and Advisors Ted Vittas and John Tsadilas cooked and helped organize the games. Before they go back to school, the Wyckoff Sons will challenge a neighboring Sons chapter to another barbeque to try their hand at flag football. Finally, in October, they look to receive more participation from other chapters and Maids as well when the chapter will hold a volleyball tournament on Saturday, October 25th at St. Nicholas Church in Wyckoff.

Submitted by John Vittas

Obituary – Tony Triant

TRIANANT Anthony T. "Tony", 75, of Mahwah, NJ fell asleep on July 19, 2008 after a long fight with Cancer. Tony was the loving husband of Christine; devoted father of Jennifer (Jeff) and Anthony (Tara); adoring grandfather to Kyra and Aaron Mittendorf and Kailey Triant; and dear brother to Genevieve Mandalakis and Anthipe Hernandez.

Tony was an Army Veteran of the Korean Conflict, Scoutmaster of Troop 25 in Tenafly for 36 years, past Chairman of the Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting, and faithful Yankee fan. The

funeral service was held on Wednesday, July 23, 2008 at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Wyckoff. A 40-day memorial will be offered at St Nicholas on Sunday, August 24th. Tony was a 6 year member of Ramapo Chapter 453 in Wyckoff, being initiated in 2002. He was a devoted scoutmaster and is noted for having more produced more Eagle Scouts in Bergen County than any other scoutmaster.



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Saturday, September 27th

8-10:00 a.m. Full Breakfast at the Acropolis Coffee Shop

Afternoon at your leisure along the Boardwalk or one of the optional activities: Atlantic City casinos, Historic Cape May, or Monster Truck Races



6:00 p.m. Fabulous Filet Mignon Dinner & Dancing at the Rusty Rudder Restaurant

Sunday, September 30th

8-10:00 a.m. FULL BREAKFAST at the Acropolis Coffee Shop

9:30 a.m. Orthros (Matins) begins at St. Demetrios Church

10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy begins

12:30 p.m. Farewell Luncheon

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- 24-year member AHEPA - Chapter Officer all 24 years - Chapter President last 18 years - Chairman AHEPA Hellenic Cultural Commission - Vice Chairman AHEPA Educational Commission - District Director Hellenism - 5 years
- Managing Director Hellenic Revitalization Foundation - Co-Chairman Holy Trinity Stewardship Program - Co-Chairman Holy Trinity Dinner Dance 1990 - Lector Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Catherine's - Confirmation class Sunday School teacher OLPH - 14 years - NYS Hellenic American Republican Association - Secretary and Executive Director - "Beer Man" Holy Trinity's Festival - 8 years
- Prospect Hill PTA President - Pelham Recreational Soccer Coach - multi-year for all three daughters

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STATEN ISLAND VISIT



Supreme Governor Louis Arvanitis and PSG John A. Mehos visit Chapter #349 in Staten Island. Brother President Dino Arvanites and the entire membership gave the best and warmest hospitality to their guests for a successful meeting.

Denver AHEPA Wins 2008 AHEPA Basketball Tournament



The 60th Annual AHEPA 'Van Nomi-kos' National Basketball Tournament was held May 2 – 4, 2008 at the site of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in New Rochelle, New York. Ten teams participated in the tournament from the US and Canada, hosted by the AHEPA Evzone Chapter 405.

Denver AHEPA was represented by two teams, while the Toronto chapter sponsored a team in the tournament for the first time. Other teams that participated, included Lynn MA, Garden City NY, Queens NY, Middlesex NJ, Manhattan, Whitestone NY, and New Rochelle, NY.

The competitive college-level tournament featured double-elimination play that guaranteed all teams a minimum of two games. Teams had the opportunity to return in the Loser's bracket for a chance to win the tournament. Denver took advantage of this double-elimination play to come back and win the tournament after losing in the semifinal round of the winner's bracket to Garden City.

The three-day tournament opened with three games on Friday night, followed by a full day of competitive play on Saturday, and ended with the semifinals and champi-

onship on Sunday.

All games featured strong, competitive basketball with close scores, including several games going into overtime and double overtime.

The final games on Sunday featured the top teams in the tournament. Denver, Garden City and Brooklyn survived to play on Sunday in the final rounds. Denver and Garden City managed to get to Sunday morning's semifinal without a real scare from their opponents. Brooklyn, on the other hand, struggled to overcome a solid Toronto team that refused to go down easily, despite

their long drive from Toronto to NY and lack of rest. After their sharpshooter and all star Nick Mangalas hit a key 3-pointer to cut the lead to one point with seconds remaining, Brooklyn was able to hold on for the one point victory. Brooklyn was paced by Mike Nebavlakis and Anthony Fonseca with 16 a piece. Toronto was led by 24 from Nick Mangalas and 22 from Luke Staniscia.

In the semifinals, Denver faced a strong and experienced Garden City team that included the two well-known twin brothers, John and Jim Vlogianitis. Garden City was thin in the backcourt but compensated with an average 6'7" frontline that performed very well against a well-rounded Denver team. The lead for either team in the semifinal game never went higher than eight points and was neck-and-neck until the end. Garden City was able to eke by Denver by one point, sending the Denver team to the Loser's bracket to play a rested Brooklyn team. Denver had a chance to win the game versus Garden City but a miss at the buzzer gave Garden City the win, 55 - 54. High scorer for Garden City was Steve Georgioulas with 18 while Aki

Palmer paced all scorers with 25 points, including six three pointers.

In the Loser's bracket final, Denver kept a pesky Brooklyn team in check throughout the game. Again, the game was close throughout but Brooklyn never managed to overcome a fast start by Denver. The strong and consistent play of Aki Palmer and Michael Kelly ensured a victory and a return to the finals for Denver, beating undersized Brooklyn in a high scoring affair 83 - 72.

In the finals, the remarkable feat in a double elimination tournament was evidenced. Denver, playing their third game in a row, came back and beat the same Garden City team that beat them in the earlier semifinal by 12 points, 62 - 50. Undaunted by the three consecutive games they had to play, Denver stayed focused and leveraged their athleticism and conditioning to beat a strong but tired Garden City team in the end.

Solid play from Aki Palmer, Dimitrios Dadiotis and Michael Kelly ensured the victory for Denver. This is the third time in four years Denver has won the AHEPA tournament. Dimitrios and Michael earned All-Star honors while Aki Palmer won MVP honors of the tournament, averaging 22 points and 5 three pointers per game but more importantly orchestrated the offense to victory.

At no moment did Denver ever panic. They calmly returned after their loss in the semifinals to march through the loser's bracket to victory. Not very often does the team from the loser's bracket survive the extra game to win the tournament.

Congratulations to the Denver team for their fine performance and thank you to all the teams that participated in this wonderful weekend.

Special thanks to Dr. Monthe Kofos and the entire AHEPA family for their continued, unwavering support of this program.

Costa Papademetriou
AHEPA National Basketball Director

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