

# *Daughters of Penelope*



## *Summary Minutes*

*Athens, Greece  
July 1 – July 6, 2008  
Supreme Convention*

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**DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE  
2008 SUPREME CONVENTION  
SUMMARY MINUTES  
ATHENS, GREECE**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2008**

**CONVENTION OPENING 9:50 a. m.**

Georgia Anastasopoulos Zakaraki, District Governor #25, Chapter #406, opened the 2008 Daughters of Penelope Supreme Convention held at the Athenaeum Intercontinental Hotel and welcomed delegates to Athens, Greece. She thanked everyone for attending this convention from the United States, Canada, and Australia.

**PRESENTATION OF GRAND PRESIDENT AND GRAND LODGE**

Past Grand Presidents Helen J. Beldecos and Anna L. Topougis escorted Grand President Karen B. Stamatiades to the podium. Grand President Karen B. Stamatiades introduced the Grand Lodge: Grand Vice President Barbara Stavis Wolf, Canadian President Eleni Inglis, Grand Secretary Elaine Sampanis, Grand Treasurer Christine K. Constantine, Grand Governor Zone I Anna-Helene Panagakos, Grand Governor Zone II Nicky Stamoulis, Grand Governor Zone III Helen Santire, and Grand Advisor Maids of Athena Joanne Saltas. Grand President Stamatiades thanked the Lodge Officers for serving the Daughters of Penelope and supporting her this past year.

**OPENING PRAYER**

Eleni Inglis, Canadian President, read the opening prayer for the Convention.

**NATIONAL ANTHEMS**

Anna-Helene Panagakos, Grand Governor Zone I, led the singing of the National Anthems of Greece, Canada, and the United States.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE**

Barbara Stavis Wolf, Grand Vice President, assisted by the Grand Lodge Officers conducted the candlelight memorial service for the 148 departed sisters. Grand Lodge Officers lit votives for each District as the names were read.

## INTRODUCTIONS

Grand President Karen B. Stamatiades acknowledged the surviving members of the Mother Lodge—Sophie Canellos and Effie Choppelas who just turned 100 years young this year.

Grand President Karen B. Stamatiades introduced the Past Grand Presidents at the National Convention: Helen J. Beldecos (1970-1972), Anna L. Topougis (1991-1992), Angela V. Kavounas (2003-2004), and Mary Boufis Filou, PhD (2005-2006). Past Grand President Topougis, delivered the welcome message on behalf of the Past Grand Presidents.

Grand President Stamatiades recognized the Past Grand Officers in attendance.

## NATIONAL PENELOPE OF THE YEAR 2007

Grand President Karen B. Stamatiades introduced the National Penelope of the Year, Joanne Saltas, Grand Advisor MOA, Chapter #79 Salt Lake City, District #20.

## PARLIAMENTARIAN

Patricia McDougale, PRP, was introduced as the Parliamentarian for the Convention.

## RECORDER

An official transcriber was not available for this convention.

## SENTINELS

Grand President Karen B. Stamatiades appointed Angelique (Angela) Hatziantoniou, Chapter #271, District #25; Mary N. Stratas, Chapter #344, District #1; Angelika (Angela) Magrames, Chapter #60, District #12; and Efthymia (Effie) Galiatsatos, Chapter #33, District #6 as Sentinels.

## TELLERS

Grand President Karen B. Stamatiades appointed Margarita (Ritta) Goussi, Chapter #409, District #25; Vivian Leos, Chapter #1, District #21; Constance Pilallis, District Governor #2, Chapter #372; and Janice Konestes, Chapter #115, District #22 as Tellers.

## CREDENTIALS REPORT

Elaine Rice, Credentials Chairman, Chapter #120, District #8 reported as of 10:35 a.m.

Total Registered Delegates: 146 and 8 Alternates. Voting strength 113.

### **ADOPTION OF STANDING RULES FOR CONVENTION**

Bessie Kalyvas, Chapter #226, District #6 moved to adopt the standing rules for Convention as outlined in the Daughters of Penelope Constitution on pages 60, 61, and 62. Seconded by Efthymia (Effie) Galiatsatos, Chapter #33, District #6. **MOTION CARRIED.**

### **ADOPTION OF 2008 CONVENTION AGENDA**

Antoinette Marousis, Chapter #374, District #5 moved to adopt the 2008 Convention agenda. Seconded by Angelika (Angela) Magrames, Chapter #60, District #12. **MOTION CARRIED.**

### **ELECTION OF CONVENTION OFFICERS**

Canadian President Eleni Inglis nominated Past Grand President Helen J. Beldecos for Convention Chairman. There were no other nominations and Helen J. Beldecos was declared elected Convention Chairman.

Antoinette Marousis, Chapter #374, District #5 nominated Demi Thomas, District Governor #5, Chapter #336, for Convention Vice Chairman. There were no other nominations and Demi Thomas was declared elected Convention Vice Chairman.

Sylvia Golfes, District Governor #21, Chapter #367 nominated Diane Petersen, Chapter #5, District #21 as Convention Secretary. There were no other nominations and Diane Petersen was declared elected Convention Secretary.

Karen B. Stamatiades, Grand President, installed the Convention Officers who then assumed their responsibilities.

### **REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF 2007 SUMMARY MINUTES**

Angela V. Kavounas, Past Grand President, stated that on page 19 of the 2007 Summary Minutes the number of votes received for the contested offices were not included. She requested that the vote counts from 2007 be included in the 2008 Summary Minutes. Her suggestion was accepted.

Helen Santire, Grand Governor Zone III moved to accept as corrected the 2007 Summary Minutes. Seconded by Connie Chiagouris, Chapter #311, District #13.

Votes recorded for the 2007 Supreme Convention in Denver, CO are as follows:

**Grand Secretary** – 195 votes cast  
Elaine Sampanis, 212 votes  
Diana Rakus, 74 votes

**Grand Treasurer** – 196 votes cast  
Sherry Dingas, 97 votes  
Christine Constantine, 99 votes

**Grand Governor Zone 1** – 194 votes cast  
Anna-Helene Panagakos, 117 votes  
Donnas Radus, 77 votes

**Grand Governor Zone III** – 192 votes cast  
Angela Magrames, 94 votes  
Helen Santire, 98 votes

**Grand Advisor Maids of Athena** – 197 votes cast  
Eugenia Christy, 57 votes  
Joanne Saltas, 149 votes

**CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Elaine Rice, Credentials Chairman, gave the voting strength of 116 at 10:50 a.m.

**GRAND PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Grand President Karen B. Stamatiades gave her Grand President’s Report.

**Recommendations:**

1. The date of the Biennial Banquet/Salute to Women be set at least one year in advance.
2. The Capitol Hill/Civic Responsibility initiative we began this year, be continued. It has raised the civic awareness of the Daughters of Penelope across the country.
3. We “encourage” our Brother AHEPANS to join with us and select a time and place for the District Governor’s Seminar early enough to allow for everyone to plan to attend.
4. That our Seminars, Conferences, Conventions, and other meetings be joint AHEPA Family meetings whenever possible.

## GROWTH AND EXPANSION PROGRAM REPORT

Barbara Stavis Wolf, Grand Vice President, rendered the Growth and Expansion Program Report. The theme this year was “Connecting With One Another”. Each District Governor was presented with a Program letter opener at the District Governors’ Conference. Throughout the year she sent out letter openers, magnets, and calendars to District and Chapter officers. Total membership 2007 is 9,814. As of the end of April 2008, 423 new initiates and 159 reinstatements.

The membership awards given out:

District most reinstatements—District #25 with 28 reinstatements. First runner-up District #1 with 19 reinstatements.

Chapter most reinstatements—Karyatides Chapter #271 Athens, Greece, District #25 with 25 reinstatements. First runner-up Pandora Chapter #332 Upper Darby, PA, District #4 with 17 reinstatements.

District with the most new members—District #25 with 164 new members. First runner-up District #1 with 43 new members.

Chapter with the most new members—Elimides Chapter #408 Kozani, Greece, District #25 with 35 new members. First runner-up Gaia Chapter #60 South Bend, IN, District #12 with 14 new members.

Chapter (under 50 members) with the largest % membership increase - Gaia Chapter #60 South Bend, IN District #12.

Chapter (over 50 members) with the largest % membership increase - Agape Chapter #336 Wyckoff, NJ District #5.

Largest increase membership Maids of Athena: District #11.

The following members were awarded prizes as first endorsers on new membership applications:

- |                                       |                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Olympic Airlines round trip ticket | Helen Menegos, Chapter #28,<br>Akron, OH, District #11            |
| 2. 18K gold handmade brooch           | Panorea Katsikas, Chapter<br>#174, Ann Arbor, MI,<br>District #10 |

- |                                                                  |                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3. Two night stay—Hilton Torrey Pines in La Jolla, CA            | Angela Magrames, Chapter #60, South Bend, IN, District #12       |
| 4. Konstantino Peridot pendant with sterling silver necklace     | Tessie Bourdamis, Chapter #35, Minneapolis, MN, District #14     |
| 5. Two night stay—Hyatt Regency in Denver, CO                    | Ritsa Petrangelos, Chapter #72, Duluth, MN, District #14         |
| 6. Two night stay—Renaissance Waverly in Atlanta, GA             | Kathryn Tripodes, Chapter#355, N. Royalton, OH, District #11     |
| 7. Two night stay—Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort in Phoenix, AZ | Christina Polychronis, Chapter #48, Jersey City, NJ, District #5 |
| 8. \$25 gift card                                                | Audrey Jalepes, Chapter #298, Silver Spring, MD, District #3     |
| 9. \$25 gift card                                                | Andrea Lieberum, Chapter #185, San Antonio, TX. District #16     |

**CANADIAN AFFAIRS REPORT**

Canadian President Eleni Inglis gave the Canadian Affairs Report. Key points of interest were: The Toronto Chapter raised \$10,000.00 for olive trees in Greece campaign; The Montreal AHEPA Family raised \$55,000.00 for Shriner’s Hospital for Children and Giant Steps; the Regina Chapter #131 raised \$115,000.00 for their local charities.

**GRAND MAIDS OF ATHENA PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Grand President Maids of Athena Stephanie Maniatis was escorted into the room and introduced to the convention body.

The theme this year for the Maids of Athena was “Sharing the Light”. The Grand President’s personal project was Alzheimer’s disease. The Maids raised money for reforestation in Greece, developed a new Website [www.maidsofathena.com](http://www.maidsofathena.com) and selected Cooley’s Anemia with the Sons of Pericles for their 2008-09 project. Grand President Maniatis thanked Evellyn Tsiadis, PGP, for donating all the Maids initiation fees for the past year.

As of July 1, 2008 total membership 153 paid in full and 97 initiates who have not yet remitted payment.

NEW CHARTER—Elpitha #274, North Royalton, OH

REACTIVATIONS—Eleni #154, Oakland, CA; Evadne #141, San Mateo, CA; Cassandra Alexandra #168, Redondo Beach, CA; Rodanthi #41 Houston, TX, and Myrtalides #268, Thessaloniki, Greece.

MEMBERS AT LARGE—Hestia #175, San Bernadino, CA and Denver, CO.

Grand President Maniatis thanked Grand President Stamatiades, National MOA Advisor Joanne Saltas, and the staff at Headquarters, especially DOP Executive Director Elena Skardis Saviolakis and AHEPA Comptroller Patrice Farish, for their assistance during the year.

Grand President Stamatiades gave a gift to Grand President Maniatis along with a check for \$5,225.00 for the Maids treasury.

Convention Chairman Beldecos reminded the delegates to sign up for committees. She informed everyone that the committees would meet after the Athletic Luncheon. The next business session will be on Friday, July 4, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. and nominations will also take place at that time.

Business Meeting Recessed at 12:55 p.m.

#### FRIDAY, JULY 4, 2008 MORNING SESSION

Convention Vice Chairman Demi Thomas called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m.

#### CREDENTIALS REPORT

Elaine Rice, Credentials Chairman, gave the voting strength of 99 at 9:15 a.m.

Credentials Chairman Elaine Rice asked the delegation to seat two Daughters from Chapter #59, District #2, Bessie Pascalis and Maria Balasis. Seconded by Joanne Sackedis, Chapter #186, District #2 moved to seat these two delegates. The motion was seconded. **MOTION CARRIED.**

At 9:30 a.m. the voting strength was 101.

## NOMINATION AND PRESENTATIONS OF CANDIDATES

### NOMINATIONS FOR GRAND PRESIDENT

Barbara Stavis Wolf, Grand Vice-President, nominated Karen B. Stamatiades, Grand President. Grand President Karen B. Stamatiades declined.

Grand President Stamatiades nominated Barbara Stavis Wolf, Grand Vice-President. An endorsement speech by Helen J. Beldecos, PGP, followed.

### NOMINATIONS FOR GRAND VICE-PRESIDENT

Anna L. Topougis, Past Grand President and Cynthia Hollister, District Governor #11, Chapter #100, nominated Elaine Sampanis, Grand Secretary.

Convention Chairman Beldocos resumed her position as Convention Chairman.

### NOMINATIONS FOR CANADIAN PRESIDENT

Canadian President Eleni Inglis nominated Diane Polesello, Chapter #295, District #24. Diane Polesello was not at the convention; she sent a letter of intent which was given to the Convention Secretary.

### NOMINATIONS FOR GRAND SECRETARY

Connie Chiagouris, Chapter #311, District #13 and Melba Bairaktaris, District Governor #13 Chapter #9, nominated Christine K. Constantine, Grand Treasurer.

### NOMINATIONS FOR GRAND TREASURER

Constance Pilallis, District Governor #2, Chapter #372 nominated Nicky Stamoulis, Grand Governor Zone II.

Kathy Matthews, District Secretary #3, Chapter #337, nominated Sherry Dingas, Chapter #224, District #3.

### NOMINATIONS FOR GRAND GOVERNOR ZONE I

Georgia Foundotos, District Governor #6, Chapter #280 nominated Anna-Helene Panagakos, Grand Governor Zone I.

### NOMINATIONS FOR GRAND GOVERNOR ZONE II

Cynthia Hollister, District Governor #11, Chapter #100 nominated Deborah (Debbie) Fletcher, Chapter #111, District #11. Deborah Fletcher was not at

the convention; she had sent a letter of intent was given to the Convention Secretary.

### NOMINATIONS FOR GRAND GOVERNOR ZONE III

Angela V. Kavounas, Past Grand President, and Sharon Papadopoulos, Chapter #54, District #16 nominated Helen Santire, Grand Governor Zone III.

### NOMINATIONS FOR GRAND GOVERNOR ZONE IV

Sylvia Golfes District Governor #21, Chapter #367, nominated Jan Spanos, Chapter #5, District #21.

### NOMINATIONS FOR GRAND ADVISOR MAIDS OF ATHENA

Georgia Souris, Chapter #340, District #20, nominated Joanne Saltas, Grand Advisor Maids of Athena.

The Convention Chairman Beldecos announced that voting would start at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow, Saturday, July 5, 2008.

Angela V. Kavounas PGP contested the voting procedure. Convention Chairman Beldecos read from the Daughters of Penelope Constitution page 9:

#### *“Section 4. How Elected*

- c. Election of Grand Lodge Officers shall be by ballot, except for offices for which there is only one candidate. Balloting will take place the day following nominations. Only those offices that have more than one candidate will be placed on the ballot. At the time of the declaration of the ballot-election results, the Convention Chairman shall declare the uncontested candidate(s) elected.”*

Angela V. Kavounas, PGP, moved to suspend the voting rules. Parliamentarian Patricia McDougle, PRP, ruled that we could not suspend those rules.

Convention Chairman Beldecos declared the nominations were closed.

### CANDIDATE PRESENTATIONS

Convention Chairman Beldecos introduced the Grand Lodge candidates to the Convention body. Each candidate addressed the delegation for three minutes. Biographies and pictures of the candidates were posted at the back of the Convention room.

### AUSTRALIAN DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

Grand President Stamatiades informed the Convention body that the Australian Daughters were in attendance to observe our meeting. Grand Vice President Barbara Stavis Wolf escorted the Supreme President of Australia, Tasia Manos, to the podium. Supreme President Manos informed the delegation that the Australian AHEPA and Daughters were concurrently holding their own National Convention in Athens, Greece. They raised \$138,000 for the fire relief fund in Greece. She extended an invitation to everyone to visit Australia. She then presented an Australian badge to Grand President Stamatiades and to Convention Chairman Beldecos.

### DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE HEADQUARTERS REPORT

Elena Skardis, Executive Director, gave her report in both Greek and English, regarding Daughters of Penelope Headquarters, and thanked Grand President Stamatiades and the AHEPA Headquarters Staff for their support.

### DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE FOUNDATION, INC. REPORT

Daughters of Penelope Foundation, Inc. Chairman Melva Zinaich, District Governor #1, Chapter #32 was not present at the Convention. Convention Vice-Chairman Demi Thomas read the Daughters of Penelope Foundation, Inc. Report.

New officers and directors for the 2008-2009 term:

|                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Deb Chrisohou       | President      |
| Joanne Booras, PGP  | Vice-President |
| Kiki Hartz          | Secretary      |
| Helen Beldecos, PGP | Treasurer      |
| Becky Demeris, PGP  | Director       |

Board Members: Audrey Marianes, Kathryn Coumanis, Eugenia Christy, Angela Magrames, Felicia "Cookie" Papuchis, PGP, and Melva Zinaich.

### CREDENTIALS REPORT

Elaine Rice, Credentials Chairman, reported voting strength 124 at 10:30 a.m.

### GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Grievance Committee Chairman Anna E. Karayiannakis, PDG, Chapter #59, District #2, rendered the Grievance Committee Report.

### GRIEVANCE #1

The increase of per capita tax from \$20.00 to the current per capita tax of \$27.00 is a financial burden to individual members as well as chapters.

**RESOLUTION** This item was referred to Budget and Finance Committee.

### GRIEVANCE #2

The National Salute to Women is held in conjunction with the AHEPA Biennial Congressional Banquet. The Daughters of Penelope, for the last four National Salutes to Women receptions, have not been advised as to the date and accommodations in a timely manner to make proper arrangements.

### **RESOLUTION**

It was recommended that consideration be given to holding the Salute to Women every two years, with the time and location to be announced at the preceding year's Supreme Convention.

### **GREIVANCE REGARDING THE CURRENT CONVENTION WERE:**

1. No Canadian flag was exhibited at meetings.
2. The Daughter delegates didn't receive a convention bag.
3. Confusion of scheduling of events.

The report and the recommendations were placed on file.

### **INVESTMENTS REPORT**

Christine K. Constantine, Grand Treasurer, presented the Investments Report.

Investment—as of March 31, 2008 Fair Market Value

Corporate Bonds \$26,863, U.S. Government Agency Obligations \$385,144.

Total as of March 31, 2008 is \$655,819.

March 31, 2008

Temporarily restricted net assets—St. Basil's Academy \$111,000; Zoe Cavalaris Fund \$7,243, and Marketing contributions \$2,844. Net assets released as of March 31, 2008—St. Basil's Academy \$33,765.00 and Zoe Cavalaris Fund \$677.00. Zoe Cavalaris Fund permanently restricted \$14,235.00.

The Investment Committee recommendation is that the securities remain as currently invested.

## MAIDS OF ATHENA COMMITTEE REPORT

Joanne Saltas, Grand Advisor Maids of Athena, gave the Maids of Athena Committee Report.

1. Membership recruiting methods used during the past year are as follows:
  - Use established groups as a beginning point (GOYA, dance groups, Sunday School)
  - Informal organizational workshops
  - Forums
  - Membership booths
  - Joint events with DOP and SONS
2. Legislation Conference held in June 2008 in New Orleans.
3. Charity Project in 2007-2008 was Cooley's Anemia. The Maids had a raffle, and so far have raised \$10,000.
4. AHEPA National Housing Corporation Project 2008 donation received is \$5,000.00.

## MAIDS OF ATHENA 2008-2009 OFFICERS

|                      |                                         |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Grand President      | Stephanie Maniatis,<br>Bethesda, MD     |
| Grand Vice-President | Sia Zois, Dayton, OH                    |
| Grand Secretary      | Victoria Pavlopoulos,<br>Atlanta, GA    |
| Grand Treasurer      | Kiki Amanatidis, Scottsdale, AZ         |
| Grand Governor       | Marianthe Kolokithas,<br>Charleston, SC |

## SONS OF PERICLES REPORT

Grand President Stamatiades escorted Supreme President Sons of Pericles, Rick Pecka, to the podium.

## CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY COMMITTEE

Chairman Antoinette Marousis, Chapter #374, District #4, rendered the Civic Responsibility Committee Report. The purpose of the Civic Responsibility Committee is to create awareness within the Daughters of Penelope by encouraging members to participate in Hellenic issues, as well as women and children's issues. The goals and objectives are through communication with elected members of local, state, and Federal representatives on a regular basis.

- Encourage members of Congress to join Hellenic Caucus and/or other Caucuses beneficial to the AHEPA Family.
- Participate in AHEPA Family letter/e-mail writing Campaign, when directed to by the DOP Civic Responsibility Committee.
- Invite representatives to AHEPA Family Events.

Civic Responsibility Chairman Antoinette Marousis recommended a 2008-2009 budget of \$500.00 for postage be available for this committee.

### **OLIVE TREE REFORESTATION PROJECT**

Grand President Stamatiades on the Olive Tree Reforestation Project. The amount raised was \$30,000.00. The olive trees (cost \$20,000.00) will be planted in October. The remaining \$10,000.00 was designated for the immediate relief of individuals who suffered losses in the fires. The Daughters of Penelope were informed that a village in Peloponese (Issaria) is in need of repair to their water well. Their old water pump was damaged. Funds of \$9,480.00 were wired from Headquarters to repair the pump. We received a letter of thanks and appreciation for this needed money to repair their well.

### **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Grand Treasurer Christine K. Constantine rendered the Budget & Finance Committee Report.

Chairman Constantine reported that the Budget and Finance Committee acted upon the resolution from the Grievance Committee.

- (a) Reduce the per capita tax to \$25.00 per member. (died in committee)
- (b) Eliminate the per capita tax for members with 50 years or more service to the Order.  
(died in committee).

### **RESOLUTIONS**

1. Be it resolved that an increase for the mandatory obligations to the Daughters of Penelope Foundation, Inc. for scholarships in the amount of \$40.00.

Fotene N. Gagkas, Chapter #406, District #25, moved to reword the resolution to read: Be it resolved that the mandatory obligation to the Daughters of Penelope Foundation, Inc. for scholarships be in the amount of \$40.00. Motion seconded.

Convention Chairman Beldecos called for the voting strength.

### **CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Elaine Rice, Credentials Chairman, reported the voting strength 135 at 11:30 a.m.

Convention Chairman took a standing vote on Resolution #1.  
88 ayes 35 nays MOTION CARRIED.

**The 2008-2009 DOP Budget was adopted.**

### **MAIDS OF ATHENA BUDGET RESOLUTION**

Be it resolved that the Maids of Athena shall not retain in their treasury, more than 30 percent of the gross income from any fundraiser, for operating expenses.

Joanne Saltas, National Advisor MOA, informed the Convention Body that this follows the same guidelines as the Daughters of Penelope.

Helen Santire, Grand Governor Zone III, moved to reword the motion to read: That the Maids of Athena shall not retain in their treasury more than 30 percent of the gross income from any National project for operating expenses. Motion seconded.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

### **PENELOPE HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Titsa Stratas, Chapter #344, District #1, rendered the Penelope House Committee Report for chairman Elaine Tissura, Chapter #53, District #1.

Penelope House Mission Statement “The mission of Penelope House is to provide safety, protection, and support to victims of Domestic Violence and their children through the provision of shelter, advocacy and individual and community education.

In 2007, Penelope House provided shelter and services to 913 women and children, and successfully opened a new location for their thrift store, Penelope’s Closet.

### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT**

Elizabeth Tsimekles, Scholarship Chairman, Chapter #59, District #2, rendered the Scholarship Committee Report.

This year, there were eighteen (18) scholarships to be awarded:

- Four (4) at \$1,500.00 each
- Twelve (12) at \$1,000.00 each
- Two (2) at \$500.00 each (reserved for St. Basil’s students)

Thirty-eight applications have been received for 2008. However, the selection process is still ongoing. Scholarship Chairman Tsimekles reported that four (4) of the applications received in 2008 had not been sent by Certified Mail, one of which was from Canada. A discussion followed on the issue of Certified Mail from Canada and that Canadian College transcripts often come out in mid June.

On behalf of the Scholarship Committee Chairman Tsimekles moved the following:

**RESOLUTIONS**

1. The four (4) scholarship applications received uncertified be accepted.  
Discussion followed.

Sister Tsimekles amended her motion that the four (4) scholarship applications received uncertified be accepted only for this year.

Voting need 2/3 vote

35 ayes      84 nays      **MOTION FAILED**

2. To change on the form **Eligibility and Application Procedures**

**ALL APPLICANTS MUST:**

(page 1 of the Eligibility and Application Procedures Requirement #1)

1. Be a woman

Change to read:

1. Be a male or a female student.

Discussion followed.

Convention Chairman Beldecos called for the voting strength.

**CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Elaine Rice, Credentials Chairman, reported voting strength of 136 at 12:40 p.m.

**Scholarship Committee Report continued**

Vote on this second motion on page 1, the Eligibility and Application Procedures requirement.

1. “Be a woman” change to “Be a male or female student.”

38 ayes

78 nays

**MOTION FAILED**

2. Moved that the postmark date of the Application (items 5 and 6 on page 1 and on page 2) be determined each year by the Scholarship Chairperson.

**MOTION FAILED**

**Form Corrections/Cleanup:**

1. On page 1 under GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD APPLICANTS MUST ALSO PROVIDE:

Under second dot instead of “units” per academic year, change to “credits” per academic year.

2. Page 5 **CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED** to be added next to **RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Chairman Tsimekles recommended that a set of appropriate Bylaws be prepared to assist in the functioning of this Program. This recommendation will be put on file.

**NATIONAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Connie Mondore, National Project Committee Chairman, rendered the National Projects Committee Report. Four projects for 2008-2009 were presented to the committee for consideration.

The projects presented were:

- Penelope House Family Violence Center
- University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Daughters of Penelope Foundation, Inc.
- Penelocean Day Care Center

The Committee moved for the 2008-2009 National Projects as follows:

**Mandatory Projects**

- Daughters of Penelope Foundation, Inc.
- Penelocean Day Care Center

**Voluntary Projects**

- Penelope House
- University of Miami Sylvester Cancer Center

Toula D. Garbis, Chapter #311, District #13, moved to amend the motion from the Committee to have all four projects listed under Mandatory projects.



- (b) If a member is initiated into the Order after June 30 or at a District Convention, she shall pay half of the specified dues for that year.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Maids of Athena Constitution

2. Article XXVII

- (d) be amended to delete “by Demeter’s Manual of Parliamentary” to insert “by the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised.”

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL EXCELLENCE REPORT**

Chairman Angela Magrames, Chapter #60, District #12, rendered the Family and Individual Excellence Report. She compared the AHEPA Family to a line from the movie *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*. “At the head of the family” is the Order of AHEPA, but the neck of the family (woman) is the Daughters of Penelope. They work hand in hand like a marriage. Their children are the junior Orders: The Sons of Pericles and the Maids of Athena. She then listed all of our projects from the past to the present that our AHEPA Family had embraced and endorsed.

### **NATIONAL PENELOPE OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE REPORT**

National Penelope of the Year Chairman Angela Magrames, Chapter #60, District #12, rendered the National Penelope of the Year Committee Report. There were sixteen applicants and one was disqualified because the form wasn’t completed properly and not sent registered mail return receipt requested. She thanked her committee for their hard work and dedication. Chairman Magrames announced the National Penelope of the Year 2008-2009. **National Penelope of the Year 2008-2009 Aglaia Lilli Radu, Hera Chapter #31, Warren, OH District #11.**

### **PRESENTATION OF CHECKS**

Grand President Karen B. Stamatiades on behalf of the Daughters of Penelope made the following presentations:

|                                           |             |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Maids of Athena                        | \$ 5,225.00 |
| 2. DOP National Scholarship               | \$ 6,205.00 |
| 3. UM Sylvester Cancer Center             | \$10,651.15 |
| 4. Penelope House                         | \$14,584.94 |
| 5. Daughters of Penelope Foundation, Inc. | \$ 5,359.89 |
| 6. AHEPA Cooley’s Anemia                  | \$ 3,703.00 |
| 7. AHEPA Bone Marrow Registry             | \$ 6,881.00 |



projects—MS, autism, and women’s issues. She ended by saying the future is our challenge.

Mary Boufis Filou, PhD, PGP, mentioned that this was the first occasion where the Sister groups from the United States, Canada, Greece, and Australia have come together at one convention. She thanked District #25, Sister Jane Ressos Bizos and the Sisters of Chapter #409. Mary Boufis Filou, PhD, PGP, mentioned she has been busy with her identical twin grandsons and as an author.

Maria Foka, Chapter #271, District #25, said that the Daughters of Penelope Convention is a historic first with Sisters from three continents meeting in Athens, Greece. She hoped that the Greek language would continue to be spoken in these other countries. (Australia, Canada, and the United States of America).

Kathy Photopoulos, Chapter #29, District #21, was on the Maids of Athena Committee and would like to see established a big sister/mentor program in the Maids of Athena.

Tina Athanassidon, President Chapter #271, District #25, thanked everyone for supporting Penelopean Day Care Center.

Anna-Helene Panagakos, Grand Governor Zone I, thanked the Greek Sisters for their hospitality and for the excursion to the Penelopean Day Care Center. She also thanked the Convention Officers, Parliamentarian, and Credentials Committee.

Bessie Kalyvas, Chapter #226, District #6, expressed her pride of being Greek and stated how wonderful it was to be attending this Supreme Convention in Greece.

Barbara Stavis Wolf, Grand Vice-President, thanked the delegates of the Convention for their work and effort, for their support and for the enjoyment in this wonderful city. She also thanked District #25 for their work. Sister Barbara informed the delegation that on the excursion to Penelopean Day Care Center, the Sisters collected 605 Euros for the Penelopean Day Care Center. She welcomed everyone to come to New Orleans and had presented souvenir beads from her Chapter, Nestor #55, in New Orleans.

Christina Monzakitis, Chapter #409, District #25, thanked everyone for coming to this Convention. Sister Christina expressed her gratitude for the money donated to Penelopean Day Care Center. She thanked the District Governor #25 and all of her Sisters.

Helen J. Beldecos, PGP, Convention Chairman, thanked everyone for their cooperation and for the effort of Sister Georgia Zaharaki, District Governor #25. She also thanked Convention Vice-Chairman Demi Thomas; Convention Secretary Diane Petersen; and Parliamentarian Patricia McDougle, PRP, for their assistance and working during the Convention.

Georgia Souris, Chapter #340, District #20, spoke about the Philhellenes in the Daughters of Penelope.

Georgia Foundotos, District Governor #6, Chapter #280, thanked the Greek Sisters for a wonderful convention and hospitality and then mentioned the District #6 50/50 raffle.

**AHEPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

At this time AHEPA Executive Director Basil Mossaides, spoke about voting for the 2010 Supreme Convention site. He reminded the assembly that the 2009 Supreme Convention will be held in San Francisco, California, June 29<sup>th</sup> to July 4<sup>th</sup>. He stated that a vote of AHEPA Chapters was taken with the following results.

- First—Bahamas
- Second—Las Vegas
- Third—Phoenix
- Third—Montreal

He asked that the Daughters vote on their preference for the 2010 Convention site from these 4 cities.

**RESULTS OF DAUGHTERS DELEGATES VOTING FOR 2010 CONVENTION CITY**

Convention Chairman Beldecos announced the results:

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| Bahamas   | 17 votes |
| Las Vegas | 17 votes |
| Phoenix   | 1 vote   |
| Canada    | 65 votes |

At this time, the result of the election for Grand Treasurer was announced.

## RESULTS OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS ELECTIONS

Elaine Rice, Credentials Chairman, announced the following:

Total votes cast 131, needed to win 68 votes.

Office of Grand Treasurer:

Nicky Stamoulis           79 votes

Sherry Dingas            55 votes

Chairman Elaine Rice declared the following candidates elected:

|                                      |                          |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Grand President</b>               | Barbara Stavis Wolf      |
| <b>Grand Vice-President</b>          | Elaine M. Sampanis       |
| <b>Canadian President</b>            | Diane Polesello          |
| <b>Grand Secretary</b>               | Christine K. Constantine |
| <b>Grand Treasurer</b>               | Nicky Stamoulis          |
| <b>Grand Governor Zone I</b>         | Anna-Helene Panagakos    |
| <b>Grand Governor Zone II</b>        | Deborah Fletcher         |
| <b>Grand Governor Zone III</b>       | Helen Santire            |
| <b>Grand Governor Zone IV</b>        | Jan Spanos               |
| <b>Grand Advisor Maids of Athena</b> | Joanne Saltas            |

Angela V. Kavounas, PGP, moved that the ballots be destroyed. Seconded by Anna-Helene Panagakos, Grand Governor Zone I. **MOTION CARRIED.**

### GOOD OF THE ORDER (continued)

Angela V. Kavounas, PGP, congratulated National Convention Officers on a job well done. She thanked Grand President Karen B. Stamatiades for her leadership of the 2007-2008 DOP Grand Lodge and for all the Grand Lodge has accomplished in 2007-2008. She congratulated the incoming 2008-2009 Grand Lodge, District #25 for their numerous awards, and the Chapters present from District #25 for their participation. She reminded those present that the Karyatides Chapter #271, Athens was started over 50 years ago. She spoke about the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Daughters of Penelope which is November 16, 2009. As Sisters from Greece, Canada, and the United States, we all love this organization and respect each other, so it is important that we support each other and all of the actions of this Convention.

Demi Thomas, Convention Co-Chairman, thanked the Sisters in Greece and stated how special it was to be in Greece for the Daughters Convention. She related how wonderful it was to attend the Capitol Hill Day in Washington, DC

earlier this year, visiting Congressmen and discussing women's issues with them.

Kathy Photopoulos, Chapter #29, District #21, related that she came 38 years ago to a National Convention in Greece and hoped to see another National Convention in Greece in ten years.

#### AHEPA SUPREME PRESIDENT REMARKS

Grand President Stamatiades escorted Ike Gulas, AHEPA Supreme President, into the Convention room. He addressed the delegates concerning the success of the Convention in Greece, he thanked the Daughters for their dedication in working with the AHEPA Family; stated that he looks forward to working with the incoming Grand President Barbara, and that he enjoyed meeting the students on the AHEPA Journey to Greece Program.

Grand President Stamatiades presented checks from the Daughters of Penelope to AHEPA Cooley's Anemia and AHEPA Bone Marrow Registry to Supreme President Ike Gulas, along with a gift of appreciation.

#### CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jan Spanos, Chapter #5, District #21, reminded the delegates to attend the 2009 National Convention in San Francisco, California at the Hyatt Regency Embarcadero Center in celebration of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Daughters of Penelope.

Results of the Raffles:

Mary Chicos, Chapter #1, District #21, won the Sons and Maids raffle benefiting Cooley's Anemia—two round trip tickets to Greece.

Argery Giavasis, Chapter #40, District #11, won 355 Euros from the 50/50 raffle sponsored by District #6.

- ♦ Convention Chairman Helen J. Beldecos, PGP, adjourned the business session at 11:20 a.m.