

**Daughters of Penelope  
Supreme Convention  
Denver, Colorado  
Wednesday, July 11, 2007**

**CONVENTION OPENING**

The Supreme Convention of the Daughters of Penelope was called to order at 9:20 a.m. by Grand President Georgia A. Psychogios. She introduced Effie Baines, District 17 Governor, who opened the convention with welcoming remarks.

**ESCORT OF GRAND PRESIDENT AND OPENING PRAYER**

Past Grand Presidents Felicia "Cookie" Papuchis and Betty Benjou escorted Grand President Georgia A. Psychogios into the convention room. At the podium, Grand President Psychogios led the Opening Prayer.

**NATIONAL ANTHEMS**

The national anthems of the United States, Canada, and Greece were led by Anna-Helene Panagakos, District 6, Chapter 33.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE**

Following a candlelight procession by the Grand Lodge, Grand Vice President Karen Stamatiades conducted the memorial service for departed sisters by reading each of their names. Grand Lodge Officers lit votives for each district as the names were read.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Grand President Psychogios began the introductions by acknowledging the members of the Mother Lodge.

Past Grand Presidents were asked to step forward to be recognized. Becky Demeris, PGP, gave the welcoming remarks on behalf of all the Past Grand Presidents.

Grand President Psychogios then recognized and thanked all past Grand Lodge Officers.

Present Grand Lodge Officers were introduced and also thanked by Grand President Psychogios for serving the Daughters of Penelope and supporting her role as Grand President over the past year.

2006 Penelope of the Year, Elaine Rice, District 8, Chapter 120, was introduced to the convention.

Gayla Stone, PRP, was introduced as Parliamentarian.

Dave Litman was introduced as Recorder.

**APPOINTMENT OF SENTINELS**

Grand President Psychogios appointed the following sisters as sentinels:

Annette Chiappari, District 21, Chapter 1	Kathleen Valenti, District 2, Chapter 59
Joann Haros, District 2, Chapter 372	Nikki Demet, District 3, Chapter 244

**APPOINTMENT OF TELLERS**

Grand President Psychogios appointed the following sisters as Tellers:

Helen Koken-Seiss, District 4, Chapter 196	Jennifer Patrinely, District 3, Chapter 337
Dorothea Fleskes, District 22, Chapter 32	Jane Bizos, District 25, Chapter 4

### **CREDENTIALS REPORT**

Elaine Rice, Credentials Chairman reported as of 10:05 a.m.:

Total Registered Delegates: 166 + 2 alternates

Voting Strength: 152

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

It was moved by Barbara Stavis Wolf, Grand Secretary, and seconded by Eugenia Christy, District 8, Chapter 22, to adopt the Standing Rules for Convention as outlined in the Daughters of Penelope Constitution. Motion carried.

### **ADOPTION OF 2007 CONVENTION AGENDA**

The convention agenda was adopted with updates and corrections. Questioned about the change on voting times for Saturday, Grand President Psychogios explained both the time constrictions and the schedule conflicts which made the changes from traditional procedures necessary.

### **ELECTION OF CONVENTION OFFICERS**

Nominations were opened for the following convention officers:

#### **Convention Chairman:**

Elaine Rice, District 8, Chapter 120, nominated by Stella Stathos, District 8, Chapter 120.

#### **Convention Vice-Chairman:**

Carrie Gormanos, District 22, Chapter 115, nominated by Marianthe Treppiedi, District 22, Chapter 115.

#### **Convention Secretary:**

Carol Stathopoulos, District 20, Chapter 103, nominated by Margo Sotiriou, District 20, Charai 79.

No other nominations were received. The nominees were declared elected.

### **INSTALLATION OF CONVENTION OFFICERS**

Grand President Psychogios administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Convention Officers.

### **REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF 2006 CONVENTION SUMMARY MINUTES**

Additions and corrections to the 2006 Convention Summary minutes were noted. (Copy on file)

Eugenia Christy, District 8, Chapter 122, moved to adopt the 2006 Convention Summary Minutes with amendments and additions. As a second was not necessary, the minutes were adopted as amended.

It was moved by Joanne Saltas, District 20, Chapter 79, and seconded by Connie Aretos-Banos, PGP, to use the specifics of the summary minutes of the convention secretary for publication. Motion carried.

Chairman Rice explained there would be no need to move and second for acceptance of reports, as they would be designated by the Chair to be placed in the file.

### **GRAND PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Georgia A. Psychogios, Grand President, read her report as presented in the 2007 Supreme Convention Yearbook. She departed from the printed text to pay special tribute to the members of the order who were residents of New Orleans and to their recovery after Hurricane Katrina.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT...**

The AHEPA National Housing Corporation will be giving five \$1000 scholarships. Angie Speliopoulos, PGP, indicated she had information to share with interested delegates regarding these scholarships.

#### **GROWTH AND EXPANSION REPORT**

Karen Stamatiades, Grand Vice President asked all delegates to peruse, at their convenience, her report published in the 2007 Supreme Convention Yearbook. She continued by suggesting the book Bowling Alone by Robert Putnam, as an example of how people do not succeed alone, but by joining with others. She found in her study of organizations, those that had ethnic roots, a common purpose, and philanthropic goals were the most successful. She reported the membership of the Daughters of Penelope continues to be just under 10,000. She found 90% of new members were "asked" to become Daughters of Penelope by current members. She also discovered the most successful chapters had strong AHEPA chapter contacts.

Growth and Expansion plaques were awarded to:

Asteria Chapter 364, District 1, Birmingham, Alabama – Large Chapter Growth  
Princess Anne Chapter 284, District 3, Norfolk, Virginia – Small Chapter Growth  
Silver District 17 – Most growth by a District

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS...**

Chairman Rice explained the responsibilities of committee chairman and also noted each session of the convention will be "adjourned" instead of "recessed" as per the parliamentarian.

Melva Zinaich of the DOP Foundation announced Foundation 50/50 raffle tickets were available from any Foundation Board Member. Winner would be announced on Saturday. Also, nominations for DOP Foundation Board Members would occur Thursday morning. Interested delegates should be present and/or contact a current board member.

#### **CANADIAN AFFAIRS REPORT**

Eleni Inglis, Canadian President read her report as published in the 2007 Supreme Convention Yearbook. She added comments thanking all the Daughters of Penelope for their love and support and especially thanked the Canadian Daughters of Penelope for their faith in her to fulfill her duties.

Chairman Rice adjourned the session at 11:45 a.m.

### **Thursday, July 12, 2007**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Supreme Convention of the Daughters of Penelope was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Convention Chairman Elaine Rice.

Chairman Rice reminded delegates to donate hotel samples (shampoo, lotion, soap) to Penelope House.

#### **STATUS AT HEADQUARTERS**

Daughters of Penelope Executive Administrator Elena Skardis gave her report. She included items regarding the completion of membership forms; submitting up-to-date dues and national obligations; and meeting deadlines established by the constitution and Headquarters. She informed the delegates regarding the ordering of supplies, pins, constitutions, and jewels. She concluded her remarks with a sincere thank you to all the

Daughters of Penelope and AHEPANs who have been instrumental in welcoming her to Headquarters.

### **CREDENTIALS REPORT – 9:26 a.m.**

Total Registered Delegates: 202 Voting Strength: 151 + 2 alternates

### **DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE FOUNDATION, INC. REPORT**

Melva Zinaich, President, reported the resounding success of the Books and Literacy program and the development of eleven libraries. She also announced the availability of paperweights for \$30 each now / \$35 after convention; 50/50 raffle tickets – prize currently at \$1000; and the beginning of a new campaign for acquisition of perpetual scholarships - a \$20,000 endowment is needed to guarantee a yearly \$1000 scholarship.

Melva thanked the 2006-2007 Board of Directors and the Past Presidents Advisory Board for their support and hard work.

She also thanked the Sisterhood for their generous and continuous support. Melva displayed the plaque given to the libraries commemorating the Daughters of Penelope donations. She shared the wonderful news that Agave, Chapter 224, Hopewell, Virginia, would be the first chapter to donate funds towards a perpetual scholarship. Sherry Dingas, representing the chapter was invited to the podium to comment on the gift to the Foundation. Sherry also added remarks on how the chapter raised the funds.

**Betty Athanasakos, PGP**, was recognized and welcomed to the convention.

### **GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

The following recommendations were presented by Grievance Chairman Eugenia Christy:

1. Rosters for National Headquarters have two (2) designations on the membership rosters. One should be "Lifetime" for those who have attained 50 years of membership prior to 1/1999; and the other "Golden" for those who have had 50 years of membership starting on 1/1999. This will also indicate to the chapters who should and should not pay dues and Per-Capita.
2. The Grand Lodge send either by mail or e-mail more detailed information in a timely manner to the District Governors and the Chapters.
3. The word "permanent" be excluded from the National Projects form.

The report and the recommendations were placed on file.

Elaine Perparos, District 20, Chapter 340, moved, and Georgia Souris, District 20, Chapter 340, seconded, to remove the word "permanent" from the National Projects form, thus mandating action be taken on the recommendation. Discussion was followed by a standing vote count. Yeas: 82 / Nays: 77. Motion carried.

Mary Chicos, District 21, Chapter 1, moved to place the particulars of recommendation number 1 into the constitution in the appropriate sections regarding membership. Diane Petersen, District 21, Chapter 5, seconded. Discussion. Points of information regarding constitutional procedures and the mechanics of roster upgrades were clarified. With the declaration by Elena Skardis, Executive Administrator, regarding the inability to upgrade the rosters in this way, the maker of the motion, withdrew it.

### **MAIDS OF ATHENA REPORT**

The Officers and Delegates to the Maids of Athena National Convention were escorted into the room.

MOA Grand President Maria Panayotou introduced the Grand Lodge: Stephanie Maniatis, Grand Vice President; Kiki Amanatidis, Grand Secretary; Sia Zois, Grand Treasurer; Eleni C. Thomas, Grand Governor; Dianna Rakus, DOP Advisor to the MOA.

President Panayotou summarized her published report by highlighting the following: *The Athenea*, the combined newspaper of the Sons of Pericles and the Maids of Athena; citing the progress of the joint national project – the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation; and the goals of the MOA nationally, *“Visions of Tomorrow – Promoting the Future”*.

She thanked Evellyn Tsiadis, DOP PGP, for donating all initiation fees for the past year. Total MOA membership currently stands at just over 430 MOA, an increase of 25% over last year.

Goals for the MOA in 2007-2008 include strengthening ties with the AHEPA and the Daughters of Penelope at the local level; continuing the Sons of Pericles and Maids of Athena partnership; and continued chapter growth.

Brief summaries were then given by all MOA Grand Lodge Officers. Special appreciation was extended to Elena Skardis, DOP Executive Administrator, for all her assistance. Comments from DOP Grand President Psychogios regarding the wonderful progress of the Maids of Athena followed. She offered them her heartiest congratulations on a job well done.

MOA Grand President Panayotou reflected on the assistance provided by Dianna Rakus, MOA Advisor. She thanked Dianna for all her efforts over the past two years. She then introduced the MOA Grand Lodge elect: Stephanie Maniatis, Grand President; Sia Zois, Grand Vice President; Kiki Amanatidis, Grand Secretary; Victoria Pavlopoulos, Grand Treasurer; Marianthe Kolokithas, Grand Governor.

#### **SONS OF PERICLES REPORT**

Supreme President Elias Papadopoulos began his report discussing the key ingredients to the **“Membership Has Its Privileges”** campaign, most notably the schedule of sporting events sponsored by the SOP. He referenced the partnership with the MOA and their joint national project. He concluded by introducing the Supreme Lodge elect:

Supreme President	Rick Pecka
Supreme Vice President	Demetrios Vidalis
Supreme Secretary	Andrew Chakmakis
Supreme Treasurer	Haralambos Tsivicos
Supreme Governors	Nikos Antopoulos & Dean Slepis

Grand President Psychogios commented and congratulated the Supreme Lodge of the SOP on the wonderful year just completed.

#### **AHEPA REPORT**

Supreme President of the Order of AHEPA, Gus James, was escorted into the room by Grand President Georgia Psychogios and presented to the Convention body.

Supreme President James announced plans for the 2008 Supreme Convention in Athens, Greece. Details included the designation of the Athenaeum Intercontinental Hotel and the Ledra Marriott Hotel as convention hotels; the contract with FREI Travel Congress Travel Agency to handle travel arrangements; and the Convention/Cruise dates of June 30-July 7/July 7- July 11 respectively. He explained several airlines – USAir, Delta, Continental, and Olympic - will be travel partners and offer discounted airfares to AHEPA Family members and their families.

He thanked Grand President Psychogios for her efforts over the past year, especially during their journey to Greece. He also commented on the importance of the Daughters of Penelope to the AHEPA Family.

Georgia Z. Anastosopoulos, DOP District 25 Governor, thanked Supreme President James for encouraging one and all to visit Greece next year. Georgia went on to say the AHEPA and DOP chapters in Greece are making wonderful plans for an eventful and memorable convention. She extended a heartfelt "Welcome to Greece in 2008".

Supreme President James continued his announcements with information regarding the combined 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Order of AHEPA and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese scheduled September 8, 2007, in Atlanta, Georgia. This would also be the time and place of the District Governors' Conference.

Grand President Psychogios commented and congratulated Supreme President James on the wonderful year just completed. She included comments regarding the close cooperation of the two orders and highlighted the journey to Greece.

### **DISTRICT 25 GOVERNOR'S REPORT**

District Governor Georgia Z. Anastosopoulos reported the formation of three new chapters in the Greece/Cyprus District. She was pleased to announce how effective the DOP chapters in District 25 have been in getting women in Greece interested and active in charitable activities, in particular, assistance to people with disabilities. Another avenue of activity was last year's support of the AHEPA Family Journey to Greece program, especially when the program visited Sparta, Greece. The chapter there hosted the students for dinner and showered them with parting gifts.

District Governor Anastosopoulos suggested an exchange program of students from Greece to the United States, perhaps similar to the Journey to Greece program. She asked for comments and invited individuals interested in forming such a program to contact her.

**Dianna Rakus, DOP Advisor to the Maids of Athena**, requested time to address the convention. She reminded the delegates of the 25% increase in MOA membership over the last year; encouraged the Daughters to establish a sisterhood and camaraderie with the young women in their communities; and to use the resources of the MOA Grand Lodge to help form and initiate new chapters. She praised the MOA Grand Lodge for a wonderful year.

### **INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chairman Elaine Sampanis outlined in her report the progress of the DOP Investment accounts. Account balances included:

Current Value Composite Accounts	\$	683,501.00
Zoe Cavalaris Athletic Scholarship Fund		24,506.00

The largest single account value equals \$596,104, of which \$139,121 are monies set aside for Saint Basil's Pool maintenance. No expenditures were made against this account this year.

Interest earned on all accounts through 5/31/07 equaled \$11,264 and estimated earnings through 12/31/07 are \$31,952.

Elaine reported the investment advisors strongly recommended to diversify the accounts from all bonds to managed accounts.

The following recommendations were presented to the delegates:

1. The Saint Basil Academy portion of the funds should become a separate fund under the Daughters of Penelope umbrella of accounts.
2. From the Saint Basil's account, transfer/donate \$25,000 to Penelope Foundation for a perpetual \$1,000 scholarship to be given to a student from Saint Basil Academy who is college bound. If no student qualifies, no scholarship will be issued.
3. Allocate \$1,000 to be given as a gift to Saint Basil's at the time of the Grand President's visitation.
4. Establish a permanent investment committee with seven members consisting of five members-at-large on a rotating basis of three-year terms; beginning with staggering terms and the Grand President and Grand Treasurer as ex-officio.

It was determined more information was needed regarding Saint Basil Academy and the status of the pool house structure and the DOP dormitory building. Chairman Rice declared the current discussion closed and would reopen it the following morning when additional information would be available.

A motion by Jennifer Patrinely, District 3, Chapter 337, to amend the agenda to hear committee reports this afternoon that were originally scheduled for tomorrow. To do so the convention would reconvene at 3:30 p.m. after a lunch break. Seconded by Maria Koutsoukos, District 14, Chapter 35. The motion failed.

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

After thanking the committee members and Grand Treasurer Elaine Sampanis, Chairman Donna Rados moved to accept the budget as presented in printed form.

Helen Kohilakis, District 6, Chapter 280, moved to increase per capita from \$20 to \$22 instead of the budget recommendation to increase per capita from \$20 to \$27 on ***Income line 1-Membership*** of the budget. Seconded by Eugenia Christie, District 8, Chapter 122. Maria Koutsoukos, District 14, Chapter 35, moved to amend the motion – to increase the per capita to \$25. Georgette Boulegeris, District 4, Chapter 229, seconded the amendment. The amendment failed. The motion also failed.

Canadian President Eleni Inglis moved to retain \$2300 on ***Expense line #18-Canadian President*** instead of decreasing that figure to \$2000 on the proposed budget. Seconded by Elizabeth Tsimekles, District 2, Chapter 59. Motion carried.

Mary Georghiou, District 3, Chapter 11, moved to add \$300 to ***Income line 15-Jewelry Sales*** to balance the budget. Jennifer Patrinely, District 3, Chapter 337 seconded. Motion carried and the budget was approved.

The session was adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

#### **Friday, July 13, 2007**

##### **CALL TO ORDER – Morning Session**

Chairman Elaine Rice called the convention to order at 9:05 a.m.

Chairman Rice announced a correction to the agenda – nominee speeches would occur immediately following close of nominations.

**Evellyn Tsiadis, PGP**, was recognized and welcomed to the convention.

##### **CREDENTIALS REPORT**

At 9:24 a.m. the voting strength: 167 + 2 alternates.

## **INVESTMENT REPORT (cont.)**

Evellyn Tsiadis, PGP, gave the following information regarding Saint Basil Academy: 1) DOP Girls' Dormitory needs both a new roof and new flooring; 2) Estimate to replace roof - \$18,000 to \$24,000; 3) Estimate to replace flooring - \$2000 to \$3,500; and she recommended adding the words "at graduation" to recommendation number 3 from the Investment Committee Report.

DOP Foundation President Melva Zinaich moved to spend up to \$25,000 of the Saint Basil's Pool Maintenance Fund to repair the roof and floors in the DOP Girl's Dormitory. Mary Georgiafandis, PGP, seconded the motion. It was moved and seconded to amend the motion to remove the word "repair" and insert the word "replace". The amendment carried. The motion also carried.

DOP Foundation President Melva Zinaich moved to take \$20,000 from the Saint Basil's Pool Maintenance Fund to fund a DOP Foundation \$1000 perpetual scholarship for a Saint Basil Academy student who is college bound. Jan Spanos, District 21, Chapter 5, seconded. Motion failed.

DOP Foundation President Melva Zinaich moved to take \$10,000 from the Saint Basil's Pool Maintenance Fund to fund a DOP Foundation \$500 perpetual scholarship for a Saint Basil Academy student who is college bound. Grand President Georgia Psychogios seconded. Calling the voice vote too close to call, Chairman Rice asked for a standing vote. Yeas 99, Nays 73. Motion carried.

Helene Aliferis Moran, District 7 Governor, moved the Grand Treasurer request an annual billing from the Academy for pool maintenance. Evellyn Tsiadis, PGP, seconded. Chrys Lynn Kotzambasis, District 20, Chapter 146 moved to amend the motion to request a billing every three months instead of annually. The amendment seconded by Elizabeth Franklin, District 22, Chapter 32. The amendment failed. The motion carried.

Georgia Souris, District 20, Chapter 340, moved to separate the investment funds of the Daughters of Penelope for both investment and accounting purposes and for this to occur at the level of the broker, currently Smith Barney. Magdaline Thomas, District 20, Chapter 340 seconded. Motion carried.

## **NOMINATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS OF CANDIDATES**

### **Nominations for Grand President:**

Karen Stamatiades, Grand Vice President, nominated Georgia Psychogios, Grand President. Grand President Psychogios declined.

Grand President Psychogios nominated Karen Stamatiades, Grand Vice President. An endorsement speech by Becky Stamatiades and the members of District 1, Menelaos Chapter 53, followed.

### **Nominations for Grand Vice President:**

Mary Georgiafandis, PGP, nominated Barbara Stavis Wolf, Grand Secretary

### **Nominations for Canadian President:**

Mary Nikolakakos, District 23 Governor, nominated Eleni Inglis, Canadian President.

### **Nominations for Grand Secretary:**

Clara Daniels, District 11 Governor, nominated Elaine Sampanis, Grand Treasurer.

Janice Konestes, District 22 Governor, nominated Dianna Rakus, Advisor MOA.

**Nominations for Grand Treasurer:**

Christine Vasilakos, District 3, Chapter 337, nominated Sherry Dingas, Grand Governor Zone 1.

Evangeline Poulos, District 13 Governor, nominated Christine Constantine, Grand Governor Zone 3.

**Nominations for Grand Governor, Zone 1:**

Georgia Foundotos, District 6 Governor, nominated Anna-Helene Panagakos, District 6, Chapter 33.

Helene Aliferis Moran, District 7 Governor, nominated Donna Rados, District 7, Chapter 138.

**Nominations for Grand Governor, Zone 2:**

Bessie Adams, District 2, Chapter 210, nominated Nicky Stamoulis, Grand Governor, Zone 2.

**Nominations for Grand Governor, Zone 3:**

Irene Kolozenski, District 12, Chapter 81, nominated Angelika Magrames, District 12, Chapter 60.

Penelope Vletas, District 16, Chapter 405, nominated Helen Santire, District 16, Chapter 54.

**Nominations for Grand Governor, Zone 4:**

Georgia Gastouniotis, District 20 Governor, nominated Lois Kotzambasis, Grand Governor, Zone 4.

**Nominations for Grand Advisor Maids of Athena:**

Thelma Twomey, District 8, Chapter 139, nominated Eugenia Christy, District 8, Chapter 122.

Georgia Gastouniotis, District 20 Governor, nominated Joanne Saltas, District 20, Chapter 79.

**Nominations were closed** and followed by three-minute presentations from each of the candidates.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS...**

Georgette Boulegeris, District 4, Chapter 229, wished Happy Birthday to Barbara Stavis Wolf, Grand Secretary.

Audrey Marianes, District 1, Chapter 53, announced the District Governors' Seminar would be held September 7-9 in Atlanta, Georgia. This event would coincide with the dual 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese and the Order of AHEPA. A commemorative album was being assembled and the DOP were encouraged to place ads in the album.

Melva Zinaich, Foundation Chairman, invited all delegates to a continental breakfast honoring Karen Stamatiades, Candidate for Grand President, in the convention room tomorrow morning from 7:30 until 9:00 a.m.

Angie Speliopoulos, PGP, reported collecting over \$600 in spare change for the Multiple Sclerosis Project.

The session was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

## Friday, July 13, 2007

### **CALL TO ORDER – Afternoon Session**

Chairman Elaine Rice called the business session to order at 1:22 p.m.

**Brother Ahepan Nick Perdaris**, was recognized. As president of the AHEPA Hellenic Heritage Foundation, Brother Perdaris spoke about the Rose Parade Float entry for January 1, 2008. The theme of the parade would be "Passport to the World's Celebrations". Funds were needed in the amount of \$125,000 and contributions were tax deductible under the 501c3 status of the Foundation.

Chairman Rice extended an apology to the candidates who were cautioned during their speeches about going over the time limitation. Some candidates were cautioned too soon, while others ran long.

### **CREDENTIALS REPORT**

Voting strength as of 1:37 p.m. was 150.

### **LEGISLATION REPORT**

Chairman Joanne Saltas began with Maids of Athena recommendations:

- Monthly conference calls and e-mail chains be implemented between the four orders of the AHEPA family.
- All chapters purchase jewels of the order by the end of calendar year 2008.
- National sporting tournaments be open to all members in good standing of the junior orders – Sons and Maids.
- The 2007-2008 National Project be a joint effort with the AHEPA Cooley's Anemia Research Foundation.
- Chapters to be encouraged to assist in the efforts of the Hellenic Museum by presenting the museum with information regarding the history of the Maids of Athena.
- Immediate MOA PGP will be designated Chairman of the Patron of Athena Committee and assigned the responsibility of meeting the membership quota as set by the Grand Lodge.
- Immediate MOA PGP will plan and coordinate two Sisterhood Conferences (one on each coast) in conjunction with the Grand Lodge to promote the Sisterhood.
- EZ Web be continued and *The Athenea* be published within the Order
- The Grand Lodge purchase publishing software not to exceed \$500 for website construction. Further, this software to be housed on a portable external drive in order to transport to different MOA Grand Lodge Officers who will be responsible for website management.
- Portions of large donations (ie. AHEPA HUD) be placed in a high-yield savings account that can be liquidated without penalty.

Chairman Saltas proceeded to the DOP Constitutional changes. She first explained that 2/3 vote of the delegates is required to adopt constitutional changes.

**The following Daughters of Penelope constitutional changes were accepted:**

**CONSTITUTION, Article XVI, Section 2, letter f, page 21: (TO BE DELETED)**

*Subsection "f": A parliamentarian, preferably one not connected with this order.*

**CONSTITUTION, Article XVI, Section 14, page 27: (TO BE ADDED)**

*Subsection "k": A professional registered parliamentarian or the equivalent, preferably one not connected with this order.*

**CONSTITUTION, Article XIII, Section 10, page 18: (WORDING CHANGE)**

*All books of accounts and financial records of the Grand Lodge, and all other accounts under its control, shall be audited by a certified public accountant ~~as of August 31~~ following the close of the fiscal year. The report of such audit shall be made to the Grand Lodge, and a copy of it shall be incorporated in, and made part of, the report to the Supreme Convention.*

**Recommendations:**

1. Each delegate to the Supreme Convention should receive the Supreme Convention summary minutes in a timely manner before the Supreme Convention convenes so the delegate can read the minutes and come to the convention with any corrections.
2. Ritual Book: All pages should be in grammatical agreement (i.e. subject, verb).

The recommendations were accepted by Chairman Rice and would be placed in the files.

**NATIONAL PROJECTS REPORT**

Chairman Connie Stamatiades Mondore reported that four projects were presented to the committee:

1. AHEPA Bone Marrow Donor Registry
2. AHEPA Cooley's Anemia Foundation
3. Daughters of Penelope Foundation, Inc.
4. Penelope's Library (informational purposes only)

As the fourth project was presented for informational purposes only, the first three were recommended to the convention body as the 2007-2008 voluntary projects.

Additional presentations to the committee were made for the Permanent/Mandatory projects:

1. Penelope House Family Violence Center
2. University of Miami/Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

These two projects would remain as Permanent/Mandatory projects.

A committee vote to remove the word "permanent" from the mandatory projects ended with a tie. No further action was taken.

**PENELOPE HOUSE REPORT**

Executive Director Kathryn C. Coumanis highlighted her printed report with the following comments:

- I. 2006 Statistics** – 999 individuals sheltered; 16,734 children educated through the School Based Programs; 12,557 nights of shelter provided.
- II. Funding** – 40% decrease in over-all funding from all sources; AHEPA Housing provided a \$20,000 grant; 2006 budget exceeded \$1,600,000 and had a \$300,000 deficit, all due to increased expenses; the bequest from the estate of Ana Moutanos has been put in an endowment fund providing interest to supplement the budget and to pay cash for the new location of Penelope's Closet; retailer **Stein Mart**, through its DIGNITY YOU WEAR national program contributes to Penelope House, providing appropriate clothing for work and job seeking.
- III. Penelope's Closet** – A property was purchased for the permanent location of Penelope's Closet. Considered to be a prime location, the Closet will reopen in August, 2007; last year's proceeds totaled \$54,000; contributions can now be mailed directly to the new location

- IV. Transitional living** – a 2-year program providing a furnished apartment for eligible clients.
- V. Fatality Review** – Penelope House is actively involved with the Mobile County Domestic Violence Task Force, composed of physicians, judges, attorneys, law enforcement officials, mental health professionals and shelter staff meeting monthly to review all domestic violence homicides that have been adjudicated to determine where gaps in services or law enforcement may have occurred.
- VI. Activities** – GREEK FEST in Mobile contributes to Penelope House while Penelope House provides volunteer workers for the festival; two large BILLBOARDS offering assistance to those who are victims of domestic violence are strategically positioned in Mobile; CHRISTMAS AT PENELOPE HOUSE is made possible with generous donations from the AHEPA and DOP.
- VII. New Assistant Director** – Tonie Ann Coumanis Torrans was named assistant to the Executive Director on March 1, 2007. This is in anticipation of the retirement of Dr. Kathryn Coumanis by the end of 2008.
- VIII. Daughters of Penelope** – March 2007, Grand Lodge held their quarterly meeting at Penelope House, which coincided with the annual Grand Affair – the primary fund raising event in Mobile for Penelope House. Over \$54,000 was raised at the elegant dinner and silent auction. Over 400 dignitaries and supporters attended.

From August 2006 through June 2007 DOP Chapters and individuals contributed \$22,885.56 to Penelope House as well as in-kind contributions of clothing, accessories, toys, school supplies, gift cards, and toiletries. Executive Director Coumanis thanked all the Daughters of Penelope for their donations and continued support.

Grand President Psychogios commented on the skill and talent of the Executive Director in her continuing work and success at Penelope House. The Grand President offered her thanks and congratulations on behalf of the Daughters of Penelope.

**Donna Rados, District 7, Chapter 138**, approached the microphone with a request to seat pre-paid delegates who had arrived late, after the close of registration. After discussion, Kay Valenti, District 2, Chapter 59, moved **not** to seat the delegates. Christine Vasilakos, District 3, Chapter 337, seconded. The voting strength at 2:18 p.m. was 175 delegates. The motion carried.

#### **PENELOPE OF THE YEAR REPORT**

After thanking the members of the committee for their hard work in evaluating 21 candidates for National Penelope of the Year, Chairman Marie Harris began her report by bringing the following recommendations to the delegates:

1. The Application, Rules and Guidelines, and Letter from the current National Chairman must be consistent to reflect that the application **MUST** be sent by Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested.
2. Rules and Guidelines sent to chapters in Greece will be written in the Greek language. However, the application must be completed in English.
3. Page 4 of the Application: Change wording from "Other Activities" to "Volunteer Services". Change "Education" to "Voluntary Educational Services".

The above recommendations would be incorporated into the forms for future use.

## **PRESENTATION OF 2007-2008 NATIONAL PENELOPE OF THE YEAR**

Chairman Harris proceeded to announce "a most deserving sister" as Penelope of the Year: **Joanne Saltas, District 20, Charai Chapter 79, Salt Lake City, Utah**

## **AUXILIARIES COMMITTEE for AHEPA/DOP REPORT**

Representing the Auxiliaries Committee, Irene Fotos, District 1 Governor, brought the following recommendations to the delegates regarding relations and decision-making affecting both organizations:

1. District Governors' Conference dates and location be decided by May, so new Governors can be advised of details when elected.
2. Biennial Banquet dates to be set about a year in advance or at the latest by the preceding Supreme Convention to aid in scheduling Salute to Women recipients as well as other speakers; scheduling time off work; airline reservations; hotel rates and availability.

Committee discussion regarding enhancing communication between AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope developed the following suggestions:

1. Continue the Supreme Convention Auxiliaries Committee for AHEPA/DOP, perhaps making it a standing committee.
2. During the Supreme Convention a DOP Grand Lodge representative attends a designated portion of the Supreme Lodge and/or Board of Directors meeting.
3. During the Supreme Convention a Supreme Lodge and/or Board of Directors representative attends a designated portion of the DOP Grand Lodge meeting.
4. Schedule quarterly Supreme Lodge/Board of Directors meetings in conjunction with Daughters Grand Lodge Meetings. Joint meeting AHEPA/DOP would occur at these quarterly meetings.
5. Appoint a yearly liaison to communicate with the respective liaison on issues germane to the corresponding organization.

**Catherine Ferguson, PGP**, was asked to inform the delegates about the **2008 Salute to Women**. Her information was limited to a date in the spring, yet to be assigned, and a location in Washington, D.C., also yet to be determined. She provided flyers requesting benefactor donations.

## **PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES**

Grand President Georgia Psychogios prefaced the presentation of certificates by thanking all the Sisters who served the Daughters of Penelope over the past year. Certificates were presented to the following Committee Chairmen and others who served on committees during the past year:

Christine Batmanis – University of Miami Comprehensive Cancer Center Chairman  
Helen Santire – National Scholarship Chairman  
Connie Stamatiades Mondore – Projects Chairman  
Jamie Cavos – Editor, Penelope's Scroll  
Elena Skardis – Executive Administrator, Headquarters  
Marie Harris – Penelope of the Year Chairman  
Joanne Saltas – Legislation Chairman  
Kathryn Coumanis – Executive Director, Penelope House  
Mary Georghiou – Investments  
Elaine Sampanis – Investments  
Helen Beldecos – Investments  
Eugenia Christy – Investments  
Karen Stamatiades – Growth and Expansion Chairman

Mary Katsafanas – AHEPA Cooley’s Anemia Foundation  
 Elizabeth Athanasakos – DOP Grand Counselor  
 Melva Zinaich – President, DOP Foundation, Inc.  
 Eleni Inglis – Canadian President  
 Elaine Rice – Credentials Chairman  
 Donna Rados – Budget Chairman  
 Debby Fletcher – Athletics Chairman, Zoe Cavalaris Athletic Scholarship  
 Tessie Bourdamis – Archives Chairman  
 Mary Georgiafandis – Grand President’s Advisory Board  
 Constance Aretos Banis – Grand President’s Advisory Board  
 Catherine Ferguson – Grand President’s Advisory Board  
 Becky Demeris – Grand President’s Advisory Board  
 Maids of Athena Advisory Board Members:  
     Canada:      Despina Chrisohou  
                     Chris Papadopoulos  
     East Coast:  Maria “Cookie” Patelos  
                     Patty Kolokithas  
     Mid West     Kiki Hartz  
                     Jean Dittrich  
     West Coast  Mary Pazeotopoulos  
                     Joanne Saltas  
     Maria Mastrokyriakos, PGP MOA

**PRESENTATIONS OF DONATIONS**

President Psychogios presented checks from the collected funds of the Daughters of Penelope to the following projects:

Penelope House Family Violence Center	\$ 11,845.81
University of Miami Sylvester Cancer Center	\$ 8,063.31
Daughters of Penelope Scholarship	\$ 6,462.75
AHEPA Bone Marrow Registry	\$ 4,482.90
Daughters of Penelope Foundation	\$ 3,668.17
AHEPA Cooley’s Anemia Foundation	\$ 3,549.98
L.A.M. Foundation	\$ 110.00
Maids of Athena	<u>\$ 4,025.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 42,207.92</u>

Chairman Rice reported Gus Hologgitas, husband of PGP Joanne Hologgitas, had been taken to the hospital earlier in the day. No additional details were available at this time.

Chairman Rice adjourned the session at 2:55 p.m.

## **Saturday, July 14, 2007**

### **Balloting began at 7:30 a.m.**

#### **CALL TO ORDER – Morning Session**

Chairman Rice called the convention to order at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Rice began with a generous thank you extended to the sponsors of the morning's Southern Continental Breakfast honoring Karen Stamatiades, candidate for Grand President of the Daughters of Penelope. Sponsors included Becky Stamatiades, Connie and Scott Mondore, and the Daughters of Penelope Chapters of the Mother Lodge District One.

A message was received from Joanne Hologgitas thanking all the Sisters for their get-well wishes for her husband.

#### **CREDENTIALS REPORT**

The voting strength at 10:17 a.m. is 168.

#### **PENELOPE'S SCROLL REPORT**

After giving a detailed description of the publishing process for *Penelope's Scroll*, Editor Jamie Cavos offered the following recommendations:

1. Print the Scroll a minimum of three times a year. With current deadlines, many activities are missed.
2. All subscriptions should be mailed to Headquarters. May be possible to include optional subscription fee when Sisters renew their annual membership.
3. Consider the possibility of having Headquarters handle all printing and mailing of the Scroll.
4. Explore the potential for government grants to offset printing costs and possibly allow for the addition of color.
5. Make the Scroll accessible on our Web Site and/or send a CD copy to districts/chapters for local printing.

#### **Balloting closed at 10:30 a.m.**

#### **NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP REPORT**

Chairman Helen Santire began with thanking the members of her committee and thanking the application judges for all their hard work during the past year's selection process. Judges for 2007 were Dr. Louis Markos, Dr. Mark Friedman, and Dr. Nugent Myrick. She then made the following recommendations to change the scholarship application:

#5 to read – "Must be postmarked by certified mail, return receipt requested, no later than June 1."

#7 to be replaced with a bullet

Change "~~Graduate student award applicants must also~~" to "Graduate student award applicants must also provide:"

#8 add "J.D."

#'s 8-11 are to be replaced with bullets.

#10 delete "~~Entering and first year graduate students must submit~~"

The recommendations were approved by the convention.

A final recommendation was to increase the national chapter scholarship assessment from \$35 to \$40 annually. The convention approved.

Chairman Santire announced the fourteen students and the scholarships awarded to them:

Alexis Marianes, Undergraduate, *Eos #1 Mother Lodge Chapter Scholarship*

Lia Marianes, Undergraduate, *Past Grand Presidents' Memorial Scholarship*

Susanna Varlan, Undergraduate, *Mary M. Verges Scholarship*

Kailey Limber, Undergraduate, *Joanne V. Hologgitas, PhD. Scholarship*

Angela Nikolakis, Undergraduate, *Past Grand Presidents' Scholarship*

Emorfina Aimee Kostogrelou, *Sonja Stefanadis Graduate Scholarship*

Cassie Skabardonis, Undergraduate, *Paula J. Alexander Memorial Scholarship*

Gabrielle Mannino, Undergraduate, *In Memory of Helen G. Pappas Scholarship*

Angela Apostolou, Undergraduate, *The Joanne Booras, PGP, Scholarship*

Rebecca Sappenfield, Undergraduate, *The Agave Chapter #224 Scholarship*

Alexis Collett, Undergraduate, *The Helen J. Beldecos, PGP, Scholarship*

Ioanna Panos, *The Big Five Graduate Scholarship*

Eleni Marie Pantages, Undergraduate, *Alexandra Apostolides Sonenfeld Memorial Scholarship*

Adrianna Kourafas, Undergraduate, *Kottis Family Scholarship*

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

***Irene Fotos, District 1 Governor*** – A water bottle sale was taking place at the district's delegate table to benefit the John C. Stamatiades Scholarship.

***Sophia Johnston, District 21, Chapter 4*** – Urged changing the printout distribution at convention.

***Sylvia Golfes, District 21 Governor*** – Welcomes all the Daughters to the San Francisco Supreme Convention 2009 during which the Daughters of Penelope will be celebrating their 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the district where the Daughters were first formed.

***Helen Beldecos, PGP*** – An AHEPA Farewell Dance with Vasili would take place tonight and be free to the delegates.

***Melva Zinaich, Foundation President*** – Thanked everyone for a beautiful convention and offered wishes for continued success of the DOP Foundation. Raffle prize currently stands at \$2200.

***Marie Harris, District 16, Chapter 54*** – HUD Project would be breaking ground in August 2007; there is land enough for a future second unit.

***Despina Vanos and Elpiniki Pavlou, Australian emissaries*** - Extended greetings from Australia; announced the intent of the new Supreme President of Australia to visit the United States; and issued an invitation to join the Australia AHEPA Family during their annual convention in Sydney, Australia, in October 2007.

***Elizabeth Tsimekles, District 2, Chapter 59*** – Asked the following names be included in the Deceased Members list: Anastasia Pilos, Voulie Kouchalakos, Mimi Mary Price, and Helen Bouyoucas. Elizabeth also suggested PDG Clubs publish names/addresses for a

national meeting; and asked the AHEPA to notify local DOP chapters where and when Regional Conferences will be taking place.

**Vasilia Kachmarski, Canadian PGP** - Thanked the local Daughters of Penelope for their hospitality.

**Grand President Georgia Psychogios** – Thanked District 17 DOP for their hospitality, the convention officers for their services, the members of her Grand Lodge for all their hard work and dedication and the delegates for their attendance to business and a fine convention.

**Eleni Inglis, Canadian President** – Congratulated all the Sisters who are running for Grand Lodge.

**Irene Kolozenski, District 12, Chapter 81** – Thanked Denver for its warm hospitality.

**Anna-Helene Panagakos, District 6, Chapter 33** – Thanked Denver for its hospitality, thanked the delegates, the credentials committee, and Elena Skardis for their hard work; and Karen Stamatiades and her daughters for this morning's breakfast.

**Catherine Ferguson, PGP** – Ditto; thanked all of the above; reminded everyone to be looking for information regarding the National Salute to Women event scheduled for Spring, 2008.

**Danielle Phaedra Efraim, District 23, Chapter 168** – Thanked everyone for a wonderful convention; reminded delegates that Swarosky Pins from Toronto were still available for order at \$25.00 per pin.

**Martha Chapman, District 17, Chapter 10** – Thanked all the delegates for coming to Denver and "to our very little district".

**Mary Georghiou, District 3, Chapter 11** – Expressed thanks to all the Sisters who volunteer in their communities and asked the Sisters to consider options for making others aware of the Daughters of Penelope and all our good works.

**Georgia Z. Anastasopoulos, District 25 Governor, Hellas-Cyprus** – Thanked the departing Grand Lodge; thanked Denver for its hospitality; extended a welcome to Greece to the 2008 Supreme Convention; and wished luck to the new Grand Lodge.

**Christine Bullock, District 17, Chapter 19** – Thanked Denver for its hospitality during this, her first national convention.

**Soula Papanicholaou, District 25, Chapter 359** – Expressed her thanks to Denver and to the convention, describing the convention as a wonderful opportunity to learn about Daughters of Penelope.

**Barbara Stavis Wolf, Grand Secretary** – Reminded all the delegates to be looking for information on Growth and Expansion from her in the coming year.

**Georgia Souris, District 20, Chapter 340** – Thanked the Sisters of her district for the birthday party held in her honor during convention week.

**Tessie Bourdamis, District 14, Chapter 35** – Representing the National Archives project, thanked Penelope's Scroll editor Jamie Cavos for focusing on the archives. She encouraged all chapters to submit information on the history of their Daughters of

Penelope chapter soon. An archive presentation to the IHRC, Immigration History Research Center will take place October 27, 2007.

**Jeanette Rigopoulos, District 20, Chapter 380** – Enthusiastically encouraged all members with children to either send or take their children to Greece to experience the country, its people, and to connect with their heritage.

**Mary Chicos, District 21, Chapter 1** – Highly recommended participation of our youth in the AHEPA Journey to Greece Program. Not only do the participants enjoy a unique opportunity to experience Greece and its hospitality, but they also earn college level credits through the University of Indianapolis.

**Georgia Psychogios, Grand President** – Announced the presentation of a check in the amount of \$3500 to the AHEPA Chairman of the Cooley's Anemia project. She also thanked Chairman Mary Katsafanas for all her dedicated work on the project this past year.

**Mary Katsafanas, District 16, Chapter 54** – Speaking on behalf of the AHEPA Cooley's Anemia Foundation, reported donations of \$60,000 to St. Jude's Hospital and \$50,000 to Dr. Arthur Baines in support of research to find a cure. The Foundation marked its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of service and Mary commented she was "excited about the future direction of the Foundation". She thanked the Daughters of Penelope for their continued support.

**Joanne Dalber, District 2, Chapter 59** – Expressed thanks to Denver for its hospitality; reminded the Sisters of the Spirit of Penelope and the guiding principles of unity, love, and respect; and reported her chapter had established scholarships for the first time this past year.

**Joann Haros, District 2, Chapter 372** – Urged the Sisters to get tested and register for the Bone Marrow Registry. She asked delegates to return to their chapters and educate their members about the value and need of being listed on the Registry.

**Angela Kavounas, PGP** – Commended Penelope's Scroll editor Jamie Cavos for her great report; recommended all committee members names be included in the minutes; thanked everyone for their get-well wishes regarding her broken foot; remarked on her son's experience singing on the bus to Colorado Springs; and wished all in attendance and their families good health. Angela concluded by saying, "With joy, all things get done."

**Anne Tsapatsaris, District 8, Chapter 120** – Commented, with pride, on the good work of Elaine Rice as chairman of the convention.

## **RAFFLES**

### **District 25 Raffle**

Winners included:	Sonja Stefanadis, PGP	Gilded Wreath
	Jan Spanos, District 21, Chapter 5	Bracelet
	Sophia Eliopoulos, District 21, Chapter 1	Penelope Figurine

Six additional prizes donated by Helen Rockas, District 21, Chapter 71, were also awarded, three of which went to Jan Spanos, District 21, Chapter 5.

### **Penelope Foundation Raffle**

Winner: Jan Spanos, District 21, Chapter 5

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

An additional amount of approximately \$160 was raised for AHEPA Cooley's Anemia during the convention.

**Karen Stamatiades, Grand Vice President**, urged delegates to take back to their chapters an upbeat, enthusiastic, and energetic message for the 2007-2008 year ahead. She reminded everyone, "With such a positive attitude, we will not fail." Karen also thanked the delegates for a wonderful convention and providing her the opportunity to serve the Daughters of Penelope for another year.

**Steve Betzelos, PSP Order of AHEPA**, addressed the convention and urged delegates to sign-up and indicate their preferences for accommodations and transportation to the 2008 National Convention in Athens, Greece. Forms from the contracted travel agency were available and would be collected by Barbara Stavis Wolf, Grand Secretary.

**Helen Rockas, District 21, Chapter 71**, invited all delegates to traverse the convention room and discover all the items for sale by different chapters and districts.

Chairman Rice announced there would be a delay in the completion of the election tally. There were some discrepancies in the procedures relating to the count between the tellers and the parliamentarian. While various delegates led the Convention in singing, Chairman Rice conferred with the tellers and the parliamentarian to resolve the discrepancies. Upon her return to the convention floor, Chairman Rice indicated additional time would be needed and suggested a recess until 2 p.m.

The session was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

## **Saturday, July 14, 2007**

### **CALL TO ORDER –Afternoon Session**

Chairman Rice called the Convention to order at 2:10 p.m.

Chairman Rice explained the process the tellers and the parliamentarian finally agreed upon to resolve the vote-counting discrepancies. She also extended an apology to the parliamentarian for misspeaking earlier when reviewing the voting process for the convention delegates earlier in the day.

### **DECLARATION OF CANDIDATES ELECTED**

After reviewing the written Teller's Report, Chairman Rice declared the following candidates elected:

<b>Grand President</b>	Karen Stamatiades
<b>Grand Vice President</b>	Barbara Stavis Wolf
<b>Canadian President</b>	Eleni Inglis
<b>Grand Secretary</b>	Elaine Sampanis
<b>Grand Treasurer</b>	Christine Constantine
<b>Grand Governor, Zone I</b>	Anna-Helene Panagakos
<b>Grand Governor, Zone II</b>	Nicky Stamoulis
<b>Grand Governor, Zone III</b>	Helen Santire
<b>Grand Governor, Zone IV</b>	Lois Kotzambasis
<b>Grand Advisor, Maids of Athena</b>	Joanne Saltas

Chairman Rice entertained a motion to destroy the ballots. Motion seconded and carried.

## **CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Melva Zinaich, DOP Foundation Chairman**, \$1000 donation from Jan Spanos, District 21, Chapter 5.

**Elizabeth Franklin, District 22, Chapter 32**, recommended and requested that Sunday Church service information (time, address, directions) be included in the materials distributed to delegates.

**Georgia Psychogios, Grand President**, reminded the delegates, installation of the 2007-2008 Supreme and Grand Lodge Officers would take place tomorrow, Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup> in the Plaza Ballroom from 9-11 a.m. Officers elect were to ask a Past Grand President to escort them during the ceremony.

**Helen Santire, District 16, Chapter 54**, extended thanks and congratulations to Convention Chairman Elaine Rice on a job well done.

**Elaine Rice, Chairman**, thanked Grand President for the opportunity to serve and extended best wishes for a good convention next year.

The convention was adjourned and closed at 2:20 p.m.