

DISTRICT 6 GOVERNOR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



September 2023
www.dopdistrict6.com

It is a blessing to be writing to you as your District Governor for a second term. First and foremost, THANK YOU for the opportunity to serve again. For those who don't know me, I have been a life-long member of the AHEPA family along with my parents, husband and children. My journey began with the Maids of Athena at 14 years old, then with the Daughters at 21 and several decades later as your Governor. I believe with all my heart in the mission of our organization and sisterhood. I promise to work hard and visit with all of our current and future chapters during my year. We have such potential for more growth in our District. It is my intention and hope that we will initiate new chapters this year while continuing the creative ideas, camaraderie and objectives with all our sisters and our AHEPA family as a whole together in philanthropy and collaboration.

Furthermore, I would like to share that we had a successful and productive Supreme Convention in Las Vegas. District 6 was well represented and won the most awards! Most importantly our very own Efthymia Galiatsatos won International Penelope of the Year! I will continue each monthly newsletter with icebreaker games and activities. I want to have a section that highlights a chapter or Sister in our District. Please chapter Presidents and Secretaries, I implore you to submit some information to use in our newsletter and also on Social Media if the Sister doesn't object. I wish you all a wonderful new season and look forward to seeing you all at meetings and events.

Much Love in Theta-Pi ΘΠ
Lainie Damaskos-Christou, District 6 Governor

DISTRICT LODGE 2023-2024

Governor

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1st. Governor

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Advisor to Daughters of Penelope

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- AHEPA Family Greek Night at Citi Field on Friday 9/29 @ 5:00 pm
- St. Basil Walk-a-thon 9/30 @ 9:00 am



IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

SAVE THE DATES:

AHEPA Family Fall Conference is October 21st, 2023 at Holy Trinity Church in New Rochelle.

AHEPA Family District 6 Convention on June 14 & 15 2024
Rivers Casino and Resort at Mohawk Harbor in Schenectady, New York

Please send your 2023-2024 chapter election results signed to our District Secretary and myself even if the lodge officers are the same.

Some more information:

Please send all flyers of chapter events to:

dopdistrict6@gmail.com

We will then post them on Facebook and Instagram.

ALSO we will offer the chapter with the most highlighted "Sisters of the month" all year long a gift at the District Convention. Please give me the opportunity to post and publish online and in the newsletter some wonderful news or information about our Sisters!

Ice Breaker games and activities:

#1. Use these Icebreaker questions as prompts that you can include at the end of a DOP meeting or activity to facilitate quick introductions and sisterhood building. The goal of these questions is to have fun, create points of connection between Sisters, and build confidence speaking in front of the chapter.

1. Who was your childhood famous crush?
2. Pick your favorite decade and why?
3. What is your number one bucket list item?
4. What is your most used emoji?
5. What is a weird fact that you know?
6. Who is your favorite author?
7. If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be?
8. What was the worst job you ever had?
9. What is the weirdest food you ever tried?
10. What did you want to be when you grew up?

You can either go around the room or have Sisters write responses on paper and then share randomly.



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EMPIRE STATE DISTRICT 6

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CHAPTER HAPPENINGS:

Our Award Recipients at the District 6 Convention on June 17th, 2023 in Queens, N.Y.

Sheila Moutopoulos
Chapter President of the Year
Alope #158 Albany

Medusa # 345
Chapter of the Year

Efthymia Galiatsatos
District 6 Penelope of the Year.

Medusa #345
Most initiated members



AHEPA and DOP District 6 Lodges Host 87th District 6 Convention

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FLUSHING MEADOWS PARK, NY - The AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope (DOP) jointly hosted the 87th Annual Empire AHEPA Family District 6 Convention at Terrace on the Park on June 17.

True brotherhood and sisterhood were on full display as delegates convened from all over the great state of New York to deliberate and collaborate with many hugs and much laughter while setting forth bold plans for the 2023-2024 year ahead.

AHEPA Supreme President Jimmy Kokotas, Chairman of the Board of Trustees Nicholas Karacostas, Supreme Governor Ted Stamas, DOP Grand Treasurer Antoinette Maroussis-Zachariades, Sons of Pericles (SOP) Supreme Vice President Alec Economakis, Maids of Athena (MOA) Grand President Maria Ana Pantelous, MOA Grand Vice President Rigo Naspoulos and a number of Past Supreme and District Lodge Officers were in attendance as well.

District 6 AHEPA and DOP Governors Dean Moskos and Lainie Damaskos-Christou opened the Convention and welcomed all delegates with inspiring and enthusiastic speeches after the Greek and American National Anthems were sung by MOA sister Christina Fileas. A very special moment of silence was held for all the members who passed away in the past year, including AHEPA District 6 Director of IT and Social Media Bolby Gemelas.

During the AHEPA & District 6 DOP Awards Luncheon, Scholarship Committee Chairwoman Joanne Pappas announced the scholarship award winners: Dimosthenis Theofilaktidis and Christina Vasilakis. DOP District Governor Lainie Damaskos-Christou, along with the MOA, hosted a fabulous Chinese auction with numerous gift baskets



PHOTO: COURTESY OF DOP

Left to right: DOP Advisor Maria (Cookie) Patelos, Marshall Efstratia (Effie) Argyropoulos, MOA Advisor Effie Galiatsatos, District Governor Lainie Damaskos-Christou, Lt. Governor Marina Patelos, Secretary Demetra Versocki, and Grand Treasurer Antoinette Zachariades.

won. Governor Lainie then presented Medusa Chapter 345 with the 2023 DOP Chapter of the Year Award as well as the Chapter with the most new members of the year, Sheila Moutopoulos was the President of the Year and Efthymia Galiatsatos was awarded Penelope of the Year. Galiatsatos will represent New York State internationally at the Supreme Convention in Las Vegas as she runs for Penelope of the Year. This is the second highest honor in the DOP followed only by the title of Grand President.

Following the DOP awards presentation, the AHEPA District 6 Scholarship Chairman Gus Mallas and Vice President Basil Katsamakias presented the AHEPA scholarships to John Nikolopoulos, Nicholas Danas, Dimosthenis Theofilaktidis, Yiannis Karavanas, Constantine Yarian, Helena Douveas, and Christina Vasilakis. Following, District 6 Governor Dean Moskos presented the District 6 Ahepan of the Year to Michael Tribunella of Meroora Chapter 455 and AHEPA District 6 Chap-

ter of the Year to Constantine Cassis Chapter 170. District Treasurer Peter Ragooussis surprised District Governor Moskos with the Empire State District 6 Appreciation Award in recognition of his two-term dedicated

service to AHEPA.

Finally, District Governor Moskos presented Certificates of Appreciation Awards to George Kakivellis, Jimmy Papademetriou, Anastasi Stampolis, Echein Rivera, Dean Pappas,

Gus Constantine, George Kallas, Theodore Klingos, and Chris Pappis in recognition of their dedicated contributions and exemplary service to AHEPA in the chapter and district level.

At the end of the luncheon, AHEPA Supreme President Jimmy Kokotas delivered remarks regarding his very active administration and reminded all of the beautiful plans that await all delegates, alternates, and guests at the upcoming Supreme Convention to take place in Las Vegas, Nevada from July 23-28, 2023. MOA Grand President Maria Ana Pantelous and SOP Supreme Vice President Alec Economakis also gave their remarks.

In the afternoon session of the convention, the AHEPA delegates elected the new 2023-2024 AHEPA District 6 Lodge as follows: District Governor - Peter Ragooussis; Lt. Governor - Michael Labatos; Secretary - Gus Constantine; Treasurer - Harry Yanakis; Marshall - Nick Calogredes; Warden - Anastasi Stampolis; and Director of Athletics - Michael Tribunella. A

motion was carried by the AHEPA delegates to create an Executive Secretary appointed position for Chris Pappis.

After the election was completed, Supreme President Kokotas presented posthumous Life Achievement Awards to three distinguished AHEPA Legends: Peter Karounos, Andrew Gallis, and Andreas Stambovdis.

Similarly, District Governor Lainie Damaskos-Christou along with the Lodge shared memories of the past year and recommendations for the coming year. Governor Lainie was optimistic at the possibility of the bold initiative of District 6 hosting once again a Hellenic History Tournament in New York State after an almost 15-year absence. In addition, she was passionate about the reinstating once again a Miss AHEPA Pageant and Scholarship Contest in District 6.

The DOP delegates elected the new 2023-2024 DOP District 6 Lodge as follows: District Governor - Lainie Damaskos-Christou; Lt. Governor - Marina Patelos; Secretary - Demetra Versocki; Treasurer - Alexandra Davis; Marshall - Efstratia Argyropoulos; MOA Advisor - Efthymia Galiatsatos; and DOP Advisor - Maria Patelos.

In addition, MOA established their District 6 Lodge for the first time since 2005. The following officers were elected: District Governor - Christina Fileas; Lt. Governor - Katerina Hadjipavli; Secretary - Michelle Papandrea; Treasurer - Sophia Theodorou; and Marshall - Laina Tzanides.

Finally, the 2024 convention was enthusiastically awarded to the Schenectady AHEPA #125 and Polixeni DOP #449 chapters in Schenectady, NY. They will host the 88th Annual AHEPA Family District 6 Convention at Mohawk Harbor on June 14-15, 2024.



PHOTO: CHRIS PAPPIS

AHEPA District 6 held its 87th Convention at Terrace on the Park on June 17, left to right: Director of Athletics Michael Tribunella, Warden Anastasi Stampolis, Marshall Nicholas Calogredes, Secretary Gus Constantine, Lt. Governor Michael Labatos, District Governor Peter Ragooussis, and Region 3 Supreme Governor Ted Stamas.