



DISTRICT LODGE
2022-2023

Governor

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Lt. Governor

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**Daughters
of Penelope**

Empire State District #6

www.dopdistrict6.com

TO: District #6 DOP Chapters

FROM: District #6 DOP Governor

December 1, 2022

The cold December month is upon us and our minds are racing to the festivities and the beauty of the Christmas season. As we approach the ending of the first half of the DOP year, I must remind all Sisters to please make sure your chapter is in good standing with dues and remittance of all monies to Headquarters. Let's begin the 2023 DOP year with every chapter current and prosperous.

I recently had a video conference with all District 6-chapter presidents that was lively and informative. I believe that all Sisters were able to share their ups and downs with each other and know that they were not alone in their triumphs and struggles. Thank you for all your continued efforts as leaders of your chapters.

REMINDERS:

- **ORAL HISTORY PROJECT.** Recently DOP Headquarters launched this project. Emails were sent individually to membership this past month each with a unique ID#. Please note that is not a scam!! If you wish to participate in the oral history and be listed in the directory, refer to your own email that was sent to you and follow the instructions.
- Penelope Scroll deadlines are January 1, 2023 and May 15, 2023, please encourage any and all articles from your chapters and submit them to penelopesscroll@gmail.com.
- In January 2023, national dues will transition to \$40 as per the new legislation which was approved at the Supreme Convention.
- District 6 fundraiser of the Theta Pi-ΘΠ pins will be available soon. Stay tuned!
- Please mark your calendars from now: The District 6 Convention will be held on Saturday, June 3rd 2023 at St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church Complex in Albany, N.Y. There will be a meet and greet gathering with food and music on Friday, June 2nd and a Sunday morning Liturgy with coffee hour sponsored by District 6. More information to follow in the coming months.



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From our Headquarters I am relaying the “**Embrace, Engage, Encourage**” Theme. This month we are looking at **ENGAGE!**

- Take the time to explain procedures and past practice throughout your chapter meeting
- Ask a committee chairperson to invite new members to assist on a committee.
- Periodically check to make sure new members understand what is going on.
- Ask “What do you think?” Encourage new members to share their reflections.

Let us remember: *One of the most important obligations we have as a DOP member is paying the dues related to membership. There is no doubt that a chapter needs money to operate, and therefore, it is essential that all sisters maintain a level of awareness, accountability and responsibility. Staying informed of due dates should become a priority in order to remain in good standing. It is imperative to maintain an open line of communication with our Chapter Treasurer. Understanding the charges being assessed and how the money will be used is important for all members to know because what you invest in the chapter is invested back in you.*

You are not alone: *Joining the DOP shouldn't overwhelm your schedule... it actually underwhelms it. Instead of handling things by yourself, you now have a constant support system of sisterhood. Make time to put your chapter on the top of your list. You won't regret it! After all, this is all about growth. Growth for you, your sisters and the chapter. Use your time to make an impact in your community and beyond! A strong and smart group of women can achieve anything when hard work is involved. Wake up every day identifying your big priorities, challenges and goals. Do not hesitate to ask a sister for advice and guidance. Whether your chapter has 30 women or 100 women, there's one thing for sure...you are not going to click with every single person in your organization. Most women join an organization for the constant support and friendship. So even though you're not going to be best friends with every member of your organization, remember that you're all a part of ONE organization. If you see that another sister is upset, ask what's wrong. If another member is sitting alone at coffee hour, invite her to join you. Not everyone has the same background, opinions, upbringing or personality as you....and that's okay! Just remember to be respectful of one another. You are all there for the same reason. You were all searching for a way to be a part of something bigger than yourself.*



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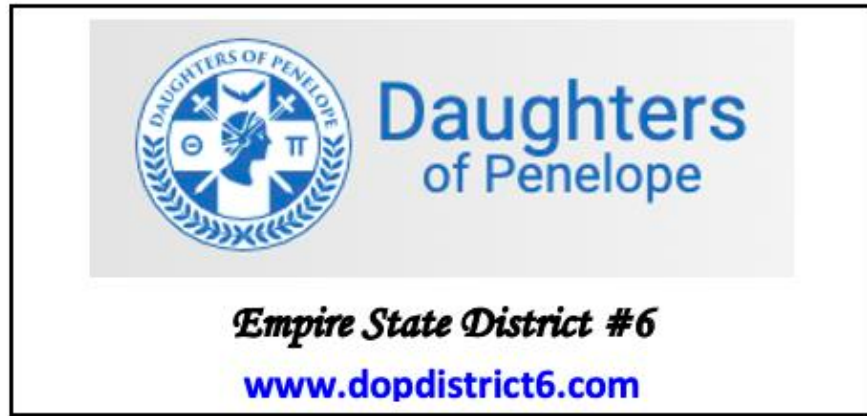
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Embrace differences and use it as an opportunity to learn, grow, and encourage others. Use your common interest of wanting to do good things, to set goals and participate in philanthropic events. You are all a part of something amazing, so make sure to always show grace and gratitude to your sisters.

This is bigger than you: *We each have the capability to destroy or encourage others with our words. A few negative members can have a drastic impact on the chapter as a whole. Never trash talk your sisters or your organization. Instead, encourage one another. For each of us, the bond of sisterhood is one of the most attractive features of joining the Daughters of Penelope. Strengthen those relationships through recognition and praise. Demonstrate appreciation of one another and your organization as a whole. The Greek community is diverse and close-knit. Respect each organization's members as well as your own. Make a point to get to know members of other organizations. Each of us has the power to influence those around us. Use your influence for good and represent yourself, your organization and the community at large with all our beautiful blended cultures well.*

So, honor the history : *You are part of an inspirational movement that began in 1929 and a community at large! That community needs you to help make in better, and they asked you to join so you could contribute your talents, time, treasure and passions. You will figure out that your chapter has goals and objectives, and that all members play a part in the chapter's success or struggles. You are now interdependent with a group of sisters who are counting on you. Our organization was founded during a period of great change for women in the United States. We were founded by suffragettes, dreamers and women who wanted to contribute much more than the world would allow. So now is your chance to be the things you've always known you can be--we need you to step up and become the best version of yourself. It is never too late to get involved.*

Stay well, beautiful and strong dear Sisters! A Blessed Christmas to all. Καλά Χριστούγεννα!

Love in Theta-Pi ΘΠ, (Please don't hesitate to call or email regarding any matter!)

Lainie Damaskos-Christou

