

**CITRUS DISTRICT 2 CONVENTION**  
**ALTAMONTE SPRINGS, FLORIDA**  
**DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE MINUTES**  
**June 6-9, 2024**

**Opening Ceremony:** JOINT MEETING OF AHEPA AND DOP Friday, June 7, 2024.

AHEPA Orlando chapter President Dean Bolaris 161 welcomed the delegates, led an opening prayer and the national anthems. He welcomed special AHEPA guests, Kostas Sofikidis SG, Demetrios Kirkiles ST and Jimmy Makris DG.

President of Orlando DOP chapter Linda Winchester 189 welcomed Christie Finch GG Zone III, Patty Didik GG Zone 2, Connie Pilallis PGP/DG, and all of us to Orlando.

DG Jimmy Makris welcomed special guests, Kosta Sofikidis SG, Demetrios Kirkiles ST, Dino Giallourakis AHEPA DM and Charles Stamoulis PDG.

PGP/DG Connie Pilallis thanked the Orlando chapters and the Sirks for hosting the D2 convention for the 8<sup>th</sup> time and introduced the District Lodge: Connie Pilallis PGP/DG, Iliyana Simeonova Boyce DLtG, Stella Stringer DS, Diana Psetas DT, Maria Balasis-Zahn DM, Ann Pirrello DA, and Rano Bellas DMOAA.

President of Orlando Chapter Dean Bolaris 161 called the 91<sup>st</sup> Citrus District 2 Convention to order at 9:21am, Friday, June 7, 2024. The AHEPAns left for their separate meeting.

**I. Call to Order:**

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG officially declared the Business Session open at 9:27am, Friday, June 7, 2024.

The District Marshal Maria Balasis-Zahn escorted Sister Christie Finch GG Zone III into the meeting room, where she was presented and welcomed. The prayer was read by the District Marshal Maria Balasis-Zahn.

**II. In Memoriam:** Citrus District 2 Lodge Officers read the memorial poem and names of our Sisters who have departed in the last year. Please see the Memorial List.

**III. Introduction of Past Grand Officers and Past District Governors**

Ourania Stephanides PDG (absent), Joanne Sackedis PGG/PDG, Sonja Stefanadis PGP/PDG (absent), Stella Sirks PGG/PDG, Nicky Stamoulis PGP/PDG, Alice Aspras PDG, Maria Augustine PDG (absent), Mary Denning PDG (absent), Patty Didik GGII/PDG, Marie Kyriakou PDG.

**IV. Roll Call of Delegates and Voting Strength by District Secretary** Stella Stringer  
At 9:40am, the voting strength was 44.

**V. Appointment of Tellers and Sentinels by District Governor** Connie Pilallis PGP  
Teller Kalliope "Poppy" Valentine 59 accepts.  
Teller Deborah Abdo-Dambrosio 372 accepts.  
Sentinel Dolly Vatikiotis 62 accepts.

**VI. Election of Convention Officers**

Nominations for Convention Chairman

Sister Erin Ryan 289 was nominated by Alice Aspras PDG 189.

Elected: Erin Ryan 289

Nominations for Convention Vice Chairman

Sister Anna Babiolakis 59 was nominated by Maria Balasis-Zahn 59.

Elected: Anna Babiolakis 59

Nominations for Convention Secretary

Sister Maria Gregory 210 was nominated by Nicky Stamoulis PGP 210.

Elected Maria Gregory 210

Convention Officers took the Oath of Office.

Convention Agenda was amended then accepted after a motion by Dolly Vatikiotis 62, second by Dorothy Xanos 186.

Maria Kyriacou 356 made a motion to allow the membership to have 5-10 minutes to read the 2023 D2 Convention minutes. Ten minutes were given by the Chairman. Corrections were made by Dorothy Xanos 186; on p. 3 under Projects, correct "at \$100, \$300, and \$500."

2023 D2 Convention Minutes accepted after a motion with amendment above by Maria Kyriacou 356, seconded by Stephanie Giallourakis 186.

## VII. **GOVERNOR'S REPORT**

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG read her letter. Please see attached. Recommendations include: clarifying the mailing for Penelope of the Year; adding a PDG advisory board; making the past minutes, PDGs, Convention City list, Penelope of the Year lists, Scholarship lists available on the website and eliminating paper copies. Applications will be available on the website. All correspondence should be sent to [Citrusdop2@gmail.com](mailto:Citrusdop2@gmail.com).

LeeAnn Lamby 186 stated that lists of Penelopes and scholarship recipients are currently on the website which is public. Connie Pilallis PGP/DG responded that she would bring it up at the PDG meeting.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 stated that the chapter reports and Penelope of the Year applications should have descriptions of the activities to allow them to be filled out more easily. Connie Pilallis PGP/DG responded that that is a good idea, will bring it up with PDGs. In her chapter, they have a Penelope of the month. She stated that she did not travel much, but allowed the rest of the DL to have those funds for travel. The D2 Memory Lane luncheon and raffle helped raise over \$2100.00 and a lot of memories.

Voting strength corrected to 46 at 10:22am.

## VIII. **Discussion and Committee Reports**

### A. Growth and Expansion

Ester Kontos 62 suggested that we involve Girl Scouts in a program for them to learn about AHEPA and DOP and thus potentially increase membership. Connie Pilallis PGP/DG said that this will be moved to PDGs.

Christine Zervas 356 discussed "game night" including the whole family, to introduce more spouses and children to the organizations.

### B. Ways and Means

Ann Pirrello DA suggested events that include people outside the organization, eg. golf tournament that involved police and firefighters, community.

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG discussed conventions as money makers—District conventions can be shorter, consider prix fixe meals, one less hotel night, can be run by District Lodge. This proposal has been submitted to Ahepa for discussion. This will require a bylaw change with AHEPA.

Joanne Sackedis PGG/DG 186 wanted to know the feelings of the members. Ester Kontos 62 asked if the DOP can do this unilaterally; as this is an AHEPA Family event, it will require a bylaw change. Connie Pilallis PGP/DG says that sponsorships and ads are the only way to pay for convention costs and make money.

Chair Erin Ryan 289 passed the gavel to Anna Babiolakis Vice Chair, so that she could mention that people who work have a hard time taking 2 days off, especially teachers at the end of the year. A shorter convention would be easier to have people attend.

Dolly Vatikiotis 62 stated that the Tarpon Springs chapter arrived this morning. Since only about a dozen people played golf, she feels that this is an excellent suggestion.

Louisa Delaportas 62 stated that she had to work yesterday; sisters come in all ages and should be able to attend whether they work or not.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 suggested that we push it back a week or two in June to make it more accessible.

Stella Sirks 189 said that Thursdays are always optional. She was also concerned that the chapter of the city will have to do a lot of the preparations.

Anna Babiolakis 59 suggested that the DL work with the chapter to arrange conventions.

Ann Pirrello, DA suggested that each coast help with legwork when it is on their side of Florida.

Joanne Sackedis PGG/PDG 186 stated that convention used to always be Father's Day weekend, but people did not like that either. We have to think about national convention timing as well.

#### C. Projects

Tina Wilson 356 suggested that we should help with citizenship drives, as patriotism is a core AHEPA Family value.

#### D. Maids of Athena

Rano Bellas DMOAA stated that our teens/college age girls are busy, consider Zoom meetings. West Palm Beach and Ft. Lauderdale are planning to start chapters. Currently Tallahassee and Tarpon Springs are our only chapters in the district.

#### E. Budget and Audit—Budget is attached. Chair Stephanie Giallourakis 186 presented the committee (CoChair Marie Kyriacou PDG 356, Mindy Speck-Wierzbicki 289, Maria Balasis-Zahn DM, Jacqueline Philippoussi 59, Connie Pilallis PGP/DG, Diana Psetas DT) and explained the income and costs for last year. 10 chapters are up to date. "Beginning Bank Balance" was changed to "Beginning Ledger Balance." Proposed budget of \$7,000 was similar to last year with the addition of a workshop. Scholarship information was also given. Maria Balasis-Zahn will discuss the continuing education scholarship in a later presentation. Stephanie Giallourakis 186 suggested we change "bank" to "ledger" as above, DT to be extremely specific in notes about what checks are being given for, consider moving money to CD to make more interest, which then may allow another scholarship.

Deborah Abdo-Dambrosio 372 stated that one chapter is outstanding; she was interested in which chapter. She was the recipient of 2 continuing education scholarships to work on her masters in Orthodox Theology. Diane Psetas DT 356 along with Tina Wilson 356 offered \$500 to help with this scholarship from their AHEPA Family Charity.

Christine Baldino 372 commended the committee for the work they are doing and recommended putting the money in a CD.

Maria Balasis-Zahn PDG/DM suggested that we put \$10,000 of the funds into a CD.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 made a motion to accept the budget as presented, seconded by Dorothy Xanos 186. Discussion by Connie Pilallis stated that the PDGs will be reporting that they may be taking their funds and adding them to the D2 AHEPA Family Scholarship Foundation to be managed. Motion amended to accepting the budget as accepted, not including the recommendations, by Stephanie Giallourakis 186; Dorothy Xanos 186 seconded, and the budget was accepted by the membership.

We will continue with District Lodge Officer's reports (out of order). PDG meeting will occur at break 12, and Penelope of the Year at 1.

Clarification of a budget item (income) was discussed.

A 5-minute break was taken at 11:10am.

We resumed at 11:41am with voting strength 46.

## **IX. District Lodge Officers' Reports**

- A. District Governor Connie Pilallis gave hers earlier. She thanked the Lodge for working well together.
- B. District Lieutenant Governor Iliyana Simeonova Boyce stated that she has learned a lot this year. Thanks to Stella Stringer and Connie Pilallis. Visitation to Daytona Beach, a small chapter, is important to help raise members. She looks forward to moving on in the Lodge.
- C. District Secretary Stella Stringer had a great year; she was able to attend many events, specifically on the West Coast. She attended WPB Fashion Show and feels like family. She went to Tarpon Springs and the AHEPA house and attended Epiphany. She visited Orlando and Boca Raton (saw her brother). She met Christie Finch GGIII. She visited NPR for the Memory Lane luncheon. She visited with Mary Denning 343. We all need to support each other and the Lodge.
- D. District Treasurer Diana Psetas is one of many children. She was inducted with 20 people in the ritual. She thanked Patty Didik GGII/PDG for encouraging her. She is working on going paperless.
- E. District Marshal Maria Balasis-Zahn encouraged us to form strong bonds with each other. DOP is a strong philanthropic organization. She would like to continue in the Lodge as treasurer.
- F. District Advisor Ann Pirrello stated that being the advisor to our PGP/DG was a learning experience for her. We learn every day and have common bonds. Thank you to Connie Pilallis.
- G. District MOA Advisor Rano Bellas is from Tajikistan, speaks Russian and came to the States 23 years ago. She is a schoolteacher and treasurer for her chapter. She spoke of how DOP has changed over the years.

Motion was made to accept the District Lodge officers' reports which was accepted by the membership. Lunch break began at 12:05pm for 2 hours.

Business meeting reconvened at 2:21pm with voting strength 42.

## **VIII. Discussion and Committee Reports continued.**

- F. Scholarship— Committee included Chair Christine Zervas 356 and CoChair Anna Babioulakis 59, Dorothy Xanos 186, Ana Patsalides 356, Vickey Sboukis 62, and Carol Makris 356. Christine Zervas 356 stated that they had a zoom meeting earlier and an in-person meeting here at convention. They had 3 applications; one was not complete. Two young ladies will receive scholarships; one will get 2 scholarships for \$2000 total, and one will get 1 scholarship for \$1000. Scholarship recipients will be announced at the Grand Banquet.
- G. Penelope of the Year—Committee included Chair Joanne Sackedis PGG/PDG 186, Maria Balasis-Zahn DM, Ester Kontos 62, Jenny Paloumpis 167, LeeAnn Lamby 186, Mary Mantzaris 189, Christina McGuirk 289, and Mary Ellen Mitchell 372. 4 applications received; 2 disqualified. One winner chosen. Recommendations include encouraging timely applications. Penelope of the Year will be announced at the Grand Banquet.
- H. Grievance, Resolutions and Legislature—Maria Kyriacou PDG 356 presented on behalf of the PDGs. The PDGs decided not to turn over the Microutsicos scholarship money, due to the small amount of interest that they would be given for scholarship. They will decide on the best way to increase the interest. They will continue to give \$1000 to the Microutsicos scholarship and \$1000 for the continuing education scholarship. They will make the application process to mirror the D2 scholarship foundation applications to make it as easy as possible.
- I. Chapter of the Year—Connie Pilallis PGP/DG spoke on behalf of the District Lodge; they are revamping the application to simplify. Chapter of the Year will be announced at the Grand Banquet.
- J. Website Report—Effie Kirkiles SMOAA/PDG 289 is the Webmaster. Patty Didik GGII/PDG spoke on her behalf. Please look at the website and send information from the chapters to be posted.

Voting Strength was 43 at 2:32pm.

## X. Chapter Reports

- A. West Palm Beach Leda 59—Anna Babiolakis stated that Leda reinstated 5 members and inducted 8 members for a total of 58 members. A speaker from AVDA came. They hosted a Mimosa Sunday with an author reading. Charities included Homeless Coalition, Breast Cancer Foundation, Quantum House. They gave over \$10,000 to church ministries. They hosted the NYE Dance, Fashion show March 9.
- B. Tarpon Springs Periboea 62—Vickey Sboukis said they initiated 14 new members. They had a ceremony for 65- and 70-year members with GP Marianthi Treppiedi, provided scholarships for HS graduates and St. Nicholas school students, threw BLINGO fundraiser, TV raffle, paximadia sales, and for the good of the order. They threw nine social events including paint and wine party, formal tea, and Beach Boys tribute party. Donations went to Honor Flights, Cops N Kids, Wheelchairs for Kids, Haven Women’s shelter, St Pete College for study trips to Greece, Clothes for Kids, Greek Children’s Fund, elementary schools, blessing bags with Philoptochos, St. Nicholas cathedral, Boys and Girls Club. They plan for a plaque with past presidents from 1937 for the AHEPA house. Maids of Athena in Tarpon Springs is in transition.
- C. Tampa Alcmaeon 167—Maria Zabetakis stated that their most important event was the Alzheimer’s Walk. They had a “YiaYia table” with arts and crafts for sale two weeks after church. Tampa is rebuilding this year. Their members volunteered at church festival, coffee hours, Oxi day, presanctified liturgies, bags of love, Greek Independence Day parade. Charities included Metropolitan Ministries, St. John GOC, city projects.
- D. Clearwater Pelias 186—Stephanie Giallourakis stated that they have 93 members, 78 current. Ongoing charities include collecting eyeglasses for Lions club, pull-tabs for Shriners, flags for Boy Scouts, toiletries for Haven House, Countryside Cares food bank, Clothes for Kids, blood drives, vases and flowers for Random Day of Flowers. Church events include working as festival volunteers, AHEPA day breakfast, Salutations, Artoclasias, flowers for Easter and Christmas, picnic, fish fry, scholarships. Other events included visiting Tampa Museum of Art classics exhibit, socials prior to meetings, Philoptochos Festival of Tables, Memory Lane luncheon, Founder’s Day social. They lost 2 sisters this year.
- E. Orlando Pelion 189-- Linda Winchester stated that they have a small chapter, but everyone works together. They were part of Ministry Sunday, movie night My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3, loukoumades fundraisers, pot luck at Thanksgiving, Memorial Day luncheon, Christmas event, guest speakers.
- F. St Petersburg Aeneas 210—Nicky Stamoulis GPG/PDG is chapter president for the 4<sup>th</sup> time; chapter is growing, 16 initiates this year; induction in January with GP Marianthi Treppiedi, and initiations each month since. Charities include Free Clinic, Vincent’s House, St Stefanos food pantry, poinsettias and lilies to decorate St Stefanos, Pinellas Hope. We had a speaker on Advanced Directives, wine tasting, Countdown to Christmas raffle, Valentine’s Day Cupcake sale, 5-day cruise to Cozumel to benefit St Stefanos roof, scholarship and recognition night including a 75-year member, Memory Lane luncheon, Christmas party with boat parade, pot luck dinners, Lenten reception Holy Tuesday, McGough Nature park trip to see the birds, and pontoon boat trips. We will be holding our 75-year Diamond Jubilee coming up this fall.
- G. Ft Lauderdale Narcissus 289—Mindy Speck-Wierzbicki said that they worked on “the power of we.” They worked in partnership with St Demetrios Philoptochos, sent packages to college students, held a Fashion show supporting foster children, hosted the Hellenic Cultural society, had a wine tasting, and a potential member social. Save the Date-- annual fashion show will be Saturday, November 16.
- H. Daytona Beach Sybils 343—Mary Denning will provide information tomorrow.
- I. New Port Richey Eros 356—Christine Zervas said they had a luau themed scholarship bingo, made pack and sack weekend food for children in need, donated to ROPE shelter, RAP house runaway shelter, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, K9 Unit. Their biggest fundraiser, the Pasco Citizen of the Year event, raised \$19,000. They fed AHEPA housing Thanksgiving dinner, made Christmas packages for AHEPA Housing, went Christmas caroling at AHEPA Housing, held a Christmas party, shoe drive, attended Greek Independence Day parade,

had a golf tournament--First Responders: Law Enforcement vs Firefighters. They also hosted a scholarship banquet, golf tournament, and AHEPA game night monthly.

- J. Boca Raton Cassandra 372—Deborah Abdo-Dambrosio said that they had 67 members, initiated 12 this year, hosted a Scholarship breakfast, support GOYAns, bought jerseys for Volleyball tournament, hosted a Greek School dinner, adopted an elementary school, donated goodie bags, gift cards, cards and stamps. For their charity Safe Haven for Newborns, they donated yarn and knit blankets. They attended the Memory Lane luncheon. Their charities include Toys for Tots, St Marks GOC. They volunteer at Greek Festival, sponsored a hole at golf tournament, had visits from Connie Pilallis PGP/DG and Iliyana Boyce DLtG, hosted a memorial and coffee hour on Founder’s Day, an Oxi Day dance, support Greek School, have meetings at restaurants, and visited other chapter’s events. New chapter website set up by Iliyana Boyce, which now has 700 followers.

Voting strength at 2:41pm is 44.

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG stated the district receives \$2 per paid member per capita, as December 31, 2023 460 member were paid. The district will receive \$954. Encourage members to pay their dues in a timely fashion.

Recess at 3:09pm; convention will reconvene at 9:00am tomorrow, June 8, 2024.

### Saturday, June 8, 2024

#### XI. CALL TO ORDER: JOINT MEETING OF AHEPA AND DOP on Saturday, June 8, 2024, began at 9:04am.

AHEPA Convention chair Domino Giallourakis recognized the Supreme Lodge and District Lodge members and PDGs.

DOP Convention Chair Erin Ryan 289 acknowledged the PDGs, Penelope of the Years.

DG Connie Pilallis PGP/DG welcomed Ally Tsenekos MOAGP and Christie Finch GGZIII. She gave opening remarks.

DG Jimmy Makris gave his remarks, stated that D2 AHEPA has grown by about 50% in the last few years. Website is available to send out any news, event information. Facebook has 1100 followers.

**XII. National Project for DOP is Limbitless Solutions.** DOP has been a large donor for about 5 years. Dr. Albert Manero and Viviana Rivera spoke about bionic prosthetic arms for children. Limbitless works with UCF. Ms. Rivera is part of the research team as well as the finishing (art) team and starts medical school in the fall. The bionic arms become of the children’s daily lives. The bionic arms are customized to the children’s interests. The legacy of the DOP is to allow this individualization and the opportunities for teaching and research. Sister Stella Sirks PGG 189 brought Limbitless Solutions to the attention of the DOP D2 and now it is a national project. A check for \$100. In honor of Grand President Marianthi also a check for \$200. from DOP District 2 were presented.

#### XIII. D2 Scholarships

Chair Charles Stamoulis PSG/PDG gave a report on the D2 Scholarship Foundation. It is doing well. D2 Scholarship Foundation funds stand at \$195,378.59. He encouraged donations and sales of raffle tickets to go over \$200K. There were 13 applications for scholarships, and all received a scholarship. Fundraising is done by raffle ticket sales and donations. The committee members were acknowledged. Nicky Stamoulis PGP/PDG and Dorothy Xanos 186 announced the scholarship winners.

High School Graduates:

Angelo Langadas Memorial #1	\$1250	Zachary Athan	Boca Raton
AHEPA #489 Charities Inc #1	\$1000	Arianna Garifalis	Clearwater
AHEPA #489 Charities Inc #2	\$1000	John Nicholas Krinos	Tampa
St Pete AHEPA 15 & DOP 210	\$1000	Lucia Kitsos	St Petersburg
Steno Augustine Memorial	\$1000	John Elias	Jacksonville
CAF Charities	\$750	Alexander Makris	Ft Lauderdale
Louis P Logas Memorial	\$750	Gianna Mitarotonda	Boca Raton

College Students:

Angelo Langadas Memorial #2	\$1250	Alexandra Vagelos	Boca Raton
AHEPA District 2 Foundation	\$1000	Dylan Romain	Boca Raton
Tony Callis Memorial	\$1000	Stefanie Bellas	West Palm
AHEPA District Lodge	\$1000	Dimitra Tsingelis	Ft Lauderdale
Jordan Joanides Memorial	\$1000	Elizabeth Ryan	Ft Lauderdale
AHEPA District 2 Foundation	\$1000	Thomas Chickles	Orlando

D2 DOP Scholarships were announced by Scholarship Committee Chairs Christine Zervas 356 and Anna Babiolakis 59.

DOP Citrus District #2	\$1000	Stefanie Bellas	West Palm
Elizabeth Tsimekles	\$2000	Stefanie Bellas	West Palm
PDG/Julia P Microutsicos	\$1000	Dimitra Tsingelis	Ft Lauderdale

The DOP Citrus District #2 Continuing Education Scholarship was not given as no applicant.

#### **XIV. Call to order of DOP business meeting**

Patty Didik GGZII escorted Ally Tsenekos MOAGP and Christie Finch GGZIII into the meeting room, where they were presented and welcomed.

Chair Erin Ryan officially declared the Business Session open at 9:48am, Saturday, June 8, 2024.

Voting strength was 48 at 9:50 am.

#### **XV. Chapter reports continued.**

H. Daytona Beach Sybils 343—Mary Denning said Daytona is a small chapter but did well. Charity is Women’s Abuse Center. They had speakers, cooking class, and a Kentucky Derby party. Socials and meetings occurred after church in the hall. All membership has paid, and membership is increasing.

Motion to accept Chapter Reports was made by Stephanie Giallourakis 186, seconded by Dorothy Xanos 186, accepted by the membership.

#### **XVI. New Business**

Maria Zabetakis 167 suggested that scholarship applications be reviewed before the deadline and students be made aware of items lacking.

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG stated that the applications will be simplified according to the D2 Foundation.

Maria Gregory 210 stated that most applications come in at the last minute.

Dorothy Xanos 186 suggested that we advertise to our students more.

Rano Bellas DMOAA suggested that the scholarships are a lot of work to fill out, that it may be apathy.

Diana Psetas DT stated that we are trying to make the applications paperless. Maids can help us spread the word about scholarships.

Dorothy Xanos 186 stated that the scholarships are automatic fill in online and easy.

Ally Tsenekos MOAGP stated that the MOA puts all scholarships on their website. She feels that the motivation is low even for fill out forms. The money is available. She suggests a coffee date where a Daughter sits with the Maids and helps them fill it out.

Maria Zabetakis 167 asked if the application tells them that they are missing something.

Anna Babiolakis 59 stated that large items are missing, such as transcripts and recommendations.

Nicky Stamoulis PGP/PDG stated that the Foundation application is simple; the applicants miss the additional items such as photo, transcript, essay. The Foundation application will not allow it to be submitted unless all elements are complete. She personally sends emails if the application is not complete. She also says that we inform all students at our church who are eligible and encourage them to submit.

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG would like the committee to work on scholarship application over the summer. She also asked that the DOP scholarships (with the exception of the PDG and Tsimekles scholarships) be opened up to male and female.

Deborah Abro-Dambrosio 372 stated that they went to the Sunday School classes in their community and informed eligible students. She stated that she herself was disqualified for the continuing education scholarship due to a missing recommendation.

Rano Bellas DMOAA stated that we should consider allowing recommendations from other people including priest, community members.

Patty Didik GGZII agreed.

Dolly Vatikiotis 62 asked if the AHEPA scholarships are available to male and females. She made a motion that male and females be allowed to apply for the D2 DOP scholarships with the exception of the PDG Microusticos and Tsimekles scholarships (which are required to be given to women), seconded by Nicky Stamoulis PGP/PDG 210 and passed by the delegates (one nay). The committee will adjust the application as needed.

Ester Kontos 62 asked if we need to have a sex/gender on the application.

Nicky Stamoulis PGP/PDG 210 said no.

LeeAnn Lamby 186 stated that they have 1 application for all 3 scholarships currently. The committee will adjust the applications.

Maria Gregory 210 made a motion to have the chapter reports typed to be handed to the convention secretary, seconded by Christine Zervas 356. Dorothy Xanos 186 suggested a copy of the fillable form. Iliyana Boyce DLtG suggested that we have a typed report. Maria Gregory 210 amended her motion to accept a 1 page typed report for the chapter reports to be handed to the convention secretary, seconded by Christine Zervas 356. Discussion by Patty Didik GGZII included the recommendation that Maria Gregory plan to act as the Convention Secretary at future conventions. The motion was passed by the delegates.

## **XVII. Nominations and Election of District Lodge Officers**

### **District Governor:**

Connie Pilallis was nominated by Iliyana Boyce DLtG. Connie Pilallis declined the nomination. Iliyana Simeonova Boyce was nominated by Patty Didik GGZII; she accepted the nomination.

**Elected: Iliyana Simeonova Boyce**

### **District Lieutenant Governor:**

Stella Stringer was nominated by Stella Androustopoulos 289; she accepted the nomination.

**Elected: Stella Stringer**

### **District Secretary:**

Diana Psetas was nominated by Stella Stringer DS; she accepted the nomination.

**Elected: Diana Psetas**

### **District Treasurer:**

Maria Balasis-Zahn was nominated by Rano Bellas DMOAA; she accepted the nomination.

**Elected: Maria Balasis-Zahn**

### **District Marshal:**

Anna Babiolakis was nominated by Jana Julius 59; she accepted the nomination.

**Elected: Anna Babiolakis**

### **District Advisor to the Maids of Athena:**

Rano Bellas was nominated by Maria Balasis-Zahn DM; she accepted the nomination.

**Elected: Rano Bellas**



**District Advisor to the Lodge:**

Connie Pilallis was nominated by Iliyana Boyce DLtG; she declined the nomination.

Ann Pirrello was nominated by Connie Pilallis PGP/DG; she accepted the nomination.

**Elected: Ann Pirrello**

**XVIII. For the Good of the Order:**

Dorothy Xanos 186 announced Casino Night at Clearwater Matheos Hall on September 7, 2024, and invited all to attend. Fashion Show March 1, 2025, at Safety Harbor Spa.

Stella Sirks PGG/PDG thanked Maria Balasis-Zahn DM for making the koulourakia.

Mindy Speck-Wierzbicki 289 announced their Fashion Show on November 16, 2024.

Nicky Stamoulis PGP/PDG announced our 75<sup>th</sup> Diamond Jubilee Gala at St Stefanos in November TBA.

Carol Makris 356 suggested that all events be sent to Christian Chickles to be put on the D2 AHEPA website as well as the D2 DOP Website. Christian@eastcoastdm.com

Tina Wilson 356 announced a bus trip to Charleston starting November 11, 2024, and a 3-day cruise on MSC out of Port Canaveral starting December 19, 2024, for \$463 per person for balcony room with wifi/drink package. She suggests that while in Nassau we reinstate the Bahamas chapter.

Christine Zervas 356 recommended that on the memorial list we announce their age and years of service in DOP. Ann Pirrello suggested years of service only, or the years they were a member. Stephanie Giallourakis 186 did not see a problem. Joanne Sackedis PGG/PDG 186 said that years of service is most important, as some people are inactive for years. Stella Androutsopoulos 289 recommended that we put the date of initiation and date of death.

Christine Zervas 356 announced their Pasco Citizen of the Year event date TBA. She recommends that we assist our nearby chapters with their events. Stella Sirks PGG/PDG 189 stated that we should try to not compete with each other for events.

Anna Babiolakis 59 announced that Leda is having a NYE party and a Fashion Show March 9, 2024.

Ester Kontos 62 announced their Founder's Day luncheon in November commemorating sisters with years of service. They have DOP Tshirts available for \$25 personalized with your chapter information. Her brother Tom Kontos is making them. oldtomkenobi@gmail.com

Diana Psetas DT and Rano Bellas DMOAA are selling 50/50 raffle tickets. There are D2 pins available as well.

Patty Didik GGZII read a message from Effie Kirkiles PDG 289 who is running for GGZII at the Supreme Convention at Cyprus, and Patty Didik announced that she will be running for Grand Treasurer.

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG read an email from Angela Vlaharis-Kavounas PGP/PDG giving well wishes for the District and Supreme Conventions.

Chair Erin Ryan 289 asked that Chapter calendars be sent to Citrusdopd2@gmail.com as soon as available.

**XIX. Remarks from Grand Lodge Officers:**

Sister Ally Tsemekas MOAGP discussed the MOA. She is from Toledo, OH. She has a master's in clinical mental health counseling and is currently working with children in Cincinnati, OH. She is going back to school for her PhD in the fall. She introduced the Grand Lodge. She thanked the Daughters of District 2 for their love and support. There are 2 active chapters in Tallahassee and Tarpon Springs, who are attending multiple events. She encouraged starting more chapters; need 8 girls. All information to start a chapter are online at MaidsofAthena.org. She encouraged fellowship and leadership

roles. Their theme this year was "You Belong." They were encouraged to make a change in their communities. They made and trade friendship bracelets at events. They are using social media. Sons and Maids are selling raffle tickets to be drawn at Supreme Convention to support Boys and Girls Club. Her special project is "Girls on the Run." This is for elementary and middle school girls to train for a 5K event, be taught social skills, and meet role models after school. They are also doing Tshirt sales to raise money for teachers for supplies, decorations.

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG presented her a gift.

Sister Christie Finch GGZIII enjoyed being in Florida. She acknowledged her sister GGs and is planning to run again for office. Thanks to Pelion 189 and Stella Sirks PGG/PDG and her committee for hosting this convention. She enjoyed hearing the chapter reports and got many great ideas from them. She enjoyed her year and especially meeting so many people. She presented a certificate for Connie Pilallis PGP/DG.

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG presented her a gift.

## **XX. Presentations**

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG presented certificates to the chapter presidents for 2023-2024: Anna Babolakis #59, Ester Kontos #62, Elaine Paros-Ketchum #167 (absent), Stephanie Giallourakis #186, Linda Winchester #189, Nicky Stamoulis, PGP #210, Erin Ryan #289, Christina Zervas #356, Debbie Abdu-Dambrosio #372, and Mary Denning #343.

Connie Pilallis presented certificates and gifts to the District Advisory Board: Patty Didik GGZII/PDG, Effie Kirkiles PDG (absent), Maria Kyriacou PDG, and Joanne Sackedis PGG.

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG presented certificates to the Convention Board and Committee Chairs: Erin Ryan 289, Anna Babiolakis 59, Maria Gregory 210, Christine Zervas 356, Joanne Sackedis PGG 186, Stephanie Giallourakis 186, Maria Kyriacou PDG 356.

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG presented awards for:

Most Initiates: 14--Cassandra #372

Best Communication: Narcissus #289

Little Chapter that Could: Daytona Beach #343

### **Awards Presented at the Banquet:**

Large Chapter of the Year: Clearwater - Pelias #186

Small Chapter of the Year: St Petersburg Aeneas #210

Penelope of the Year: Marie Kyriacou, PDG – Cassandra #372

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG presented gifts to the District Lodge: Iliyana Simeonova Boyce DLtG, Stella Stringer DS, Diana Psetas DT, Maria Balasis -Zahn DM, Ann Pirrello DA, and Rano Bellas DMOAA.

Iliyana Simeonova Boyce DLtG thanked Connie Pilallis PGP/DG and presented a gift from the Lodge.

Connie Pilallis PGP/DG announced Iliyana Boyce's engagement, congratulations and best wishes.

Incoming District Governor Iliyana Boyce said that she is full of energy and looking forward to next year.

## **XXI. Voting of Vision Boards by Delegates**

Winner will be announced this evening at the Grand Banquet.

Votes were counted by Patty Didik, GGZII and Poppy Valentine, Convention Teller.

**Leda #59** was the winner and received the \$100.00 cash prize donated by Connie Pilallis. PGP/DG

## **District 2 50/50 Fundraiser Raffle presented at Banquet**

The total amount collected was **\$784**.

Winner: Maria Balasis-Zahn, District Marshal, Leda #59 was the happy recipient of \$392.

Installation of officers will occur this afternoon at 5pm. Email will be sent out.

**XXII. Closing Prayer** was read by Maria Balasis-Zahn DM.

**XXIII. Motion to Adjourn:** Motion made to adjourn on June 8, 2024, at 11:43am by Marie Kyriakou, PDG 356, seconded by Alice Aspras, PDG 289, accepted by the delegates.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Convention Secretary Maria Gregory, June 8, 2024 at 1:00pm.