



# Newsletter

## Daughters of Penelope Citrus District 2



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# DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Sisters,

First, I would like to express my gratitude to all the District 2 Lodge Members, the Advisory Board, and our District Liaison Efthyhia "Effie" Kirkiles for the tremendous support they have been providing me the past months and for creating an incredible environment for our District to thrive and being empowered by the presence of such amazing women!

With this being said, I would like to reflect and display what amazing Chapters we have in our District that are a true testament to supporting their community, especially in difficult times. The month of October was impacted by Hurricane Helene and Milton with big destruction on the West Coast of Florida.

We prayed for the safety and quick recovery of the area, but the actions of our Sisters spoke even louder. Sisters from different Chapters made sure they supported the most impacted by collecting donations and providing help to their best abilities. To display those efforts, I requested my Lodge members to get in touch with the Chapters and provide me with all these amazing examples of true support. I am very excited to announce that in the current November Newsletter, we have launched for the first time, as I promised the West Coast News. You can read below from the source what have two of the District 2 Chapters done for our community! Thank you, Sisters!

Thank you to our District Lt. Governor Stella Stringer's column "Daughter of the Month," which highlights and recognizes the accomplishments of our Sisters across Citrus District 2 each month! In our November Newsletter, we highlighted three Sisters. They truly deserve the recognition they have received! Below you can read in further detail and celebrate their accomplishments. Bravo Sisters!

Don't miss reading the Maids of Athena News from the Tallahassee Chapter highlighted for the month of November. Our District Advisor, Rano Bellas has been doing an amazing job communicating with the girls and providing them with the best support!

We are very proud as a District to be able to provide our Chapter Officers with the best training and educational opportunities! The originally planned in-person Workshop 2024 in Daytona was rescheduled via Zoom due to the Catastrophic Impact of Hurricane Helene. The Workshop took place on Saturday, November 2nd, via Zoom. We did our best to keep our promise to be informative, concise, and interactive!

# DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Thank you to All who participated in our Citrus District 2 Workshop at the beginning of November! I hope we provided you with the knowledge you could take back to your Chapters about our Vision and Beyond! Among the topics that were covered were Growth and Expansion, Organizational Structure, District 2 Forms, DOP National Forms, and Website and Electronic Communication Guidelines. Big Thank you goes to our Speakers members of the Daughters of Penelope Grand Lodge: Grand Vice President Antoinette M. Zachariades of Brick, NJ; Grand Treasurer Patty Didik of Hudson, FL; Grand Governor Zone II Effie Kirkiles of Oakland Park, FL.

It was a big honor for us to have the Grand President, Margaret Dritsas speaking and welcoming all Sisters present at the Virtual Workshop. It was truly inspiring. The District 2 Lodge expresses our Thank you to our Grand President, Margaret Dritsas!

Our District Lodge Sisters in the respective areas have been communicating with you to make sure that we as a District keep in touch with you and recognize each Chapter for their initiatives, fundraiser efforts, and need for additional support. Please always reach out to us if you need our support or if we have missed showing or highlighted any of your Chapter accomplishments. We want to celebrate with you and be as close as possible to you and your Chapter members!

I am proud to report that our District Lt. Governor Stella Stringer participated in the initiation of new members for the Narcissus Chapter of Ft. Lauderdale, FL. The Narcissus Chapter of Ft. Lauderdale, FL held their first initiation on October 16, 2024. District 2 Lt. Governor, Stella Stringer, participated in the initiation of the two new members. It was a special honor since this is Sister Stella's home Chapter. The two new initiates were Cindy Sboukis from Miami, FL, and Katelyn Tzavelis from Ft. Lauderdale, FL. They are very excited to get involved!



# DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

## Celebrating Our Founders

As Founder's Day approaches, we honor the vision of our founding sisters, who paved the way for us. Their legacy inspires us to empower the next generation, and in their spirit, we are "Empowered Together."

Personally, I would like to share that I gave birth to my daughter Anastasia at the beginning of October. She was born on the 5th of October. I have been extremely happy to have my daughter in my hands and I cannot express how much happiness she has brought in my life! Her 40-day Blessing took place in November at Saint Mark in Boca Raton, Fl. I have put together a small collage to share this blessed news with you!



*Baby Anastasia*  
**OCTOBER &  
NOVEMBER 2024**

## Wishing You a Happy Thanksgiving

Lastly, Citrus District 2 is Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving! We would like to express our gratitude to each of you. Thank you for your dedication to our sisterhood!

"To achieve great things, we must first dream"

As always with Love,  
In Theta Pi,  
Iliyana Simeonova Boyce  
District 2 Governor

# DAUGHTER OF THE MONTH

**BY DISTRICT LT. GOVERNOR: STELLA STRINGER**

**MONIKA SPANTIDAKIS – AENEAS #210, ST. PETERSBURG  
THEODORA KAVOURIS – CASSANDRA #372, BOCA RATON  
MARIA BALASIS ZAHN – LEDA #59, WEST PALM BEACH**

## **Monika Spantidakis**

### **Why Monika?**

Monika is a new member of our chapter. She loves the Daughters and is eager to help and has already stepped up to chair events. Monika is a kind and caring person who wants to help others in need. She is a great asset to our chapter and community.



# DAUGHTER OF THE MONTH

BY DISTRICT LT. GOVERNOR: STELLA STRINGER

**Theodora Kavouris**

**Why Theodora?**

Theodora embodies the philosophy that helping others enriches their lives and brings immense emotional satisfaction to the giver. A staunch advocate for lifelong engagement, she encourages everyone to continue contributing to society, asserting that even in retirement, one's efforts to improve the community can leave a lasting legacy. Her contributions, dedication, and compassionate spirit are a role model for others.



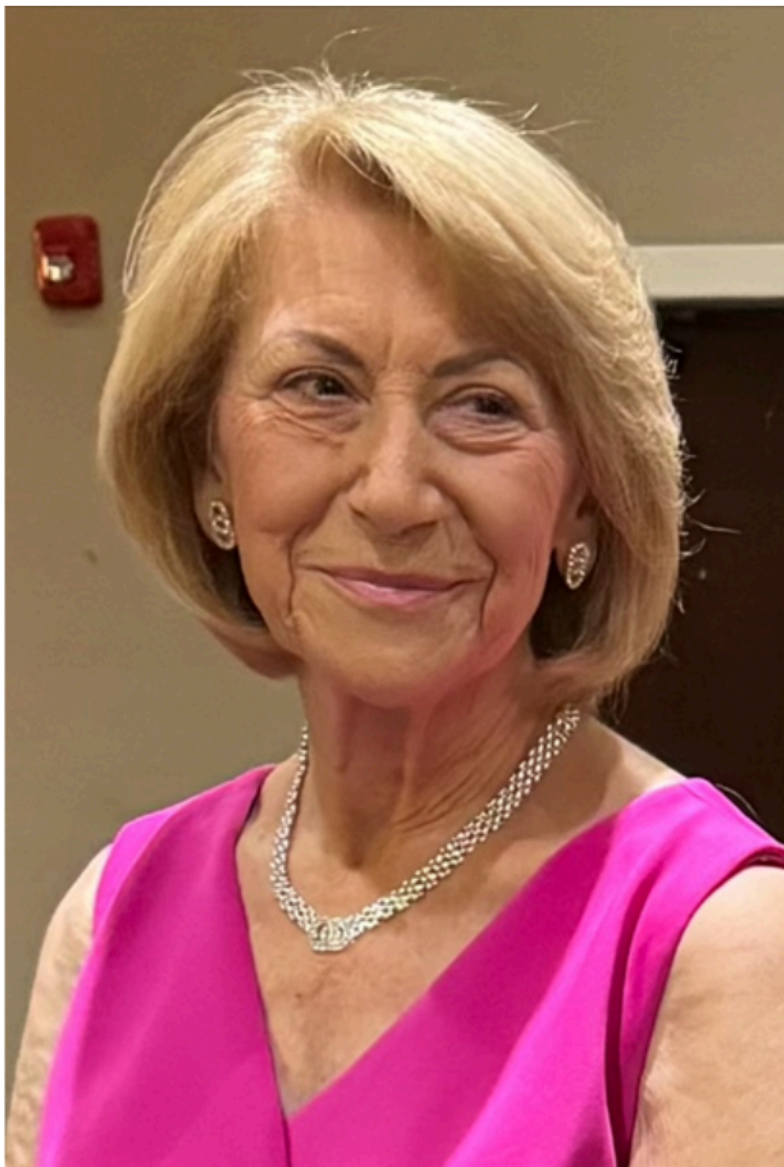
# DAUGHTER OF THE MONTH

**BY DISTRICT LT. GOVERNOR: STELLA STRINGER**

**Maria Balasis-Zahn**

**Why Maria?**

Maria became a cherished member of the Daughters in 1994 and has twice taken on the role of President for our chapter, bringing her talents and dedication to each term. Currently serving as District 2 Treasurer, she pours her heart into fostering the growth of our sisterhood. Always the first to volunteer for every fundraiser, you can find her joyfully working in the kitchen, where her cooking is only rivaled by her smile and stamina. Maria truly embodies the spirit of our Sisterhood, and we are so grateful for her tireless efforts and generosity.



# WEST COAST NEWS

**BY DISTRICT SECRETARY: DIANA PSETAS  
AND DISTRICT ADVISOR: ANN PIRRELLO**

**Eros #356**

## **New Port Richey**

Christina Zervas, President of Chapter Eros #356 New Port Richey, thankfully kept her meeting for October. The members discussed the best resources to help the community. After Hurricane Helene, the chapter focused on the R.O.P.E Homeless Center of Hudson, FL. It provides shelter, food, guidance, or rehabilitation for the Pasco County homeless. The center was destroyed by flooding, whereby our chapter gave enough funds to begin recovery and our Philoptochos sisters of St. George church. Philoptochos also provided food for immediate needs the day before Hurricane Helene. An honorary mention was made of Fr. Andrew of St. George, who organized meals for people without food during Hurricane Milton. These disasters are tragic, but kindness, charity, and focused care for others remain the light in the tunnel.





# WEST COAST NEWS

**BY DISTRICT SECRETARY: DIANA PSETAS  
AND DISTRICT ADVISOR: ANN PIRRELLO**

## **Periboea #62**

### **Tarpon Springs**

On October 18th, Periboea Chapter 62 joined with our Ahepan brothers to man a booth selling raffle tickets to aid businesses in the Sponge Docks which were damaged. Among those sisters present were Esther Kontos, Sophia O'Malley, Loretta Christopol, Shirley Zutes, and Ana Patsalides. We are also collecting donations at the AHEPA house Friday night fish fry to help those who have lost everything. We will be collecting through November 8th and then purchasing gift cards to present to those who our sisters have put forth. In addition to collecting money, our Chapter will be donating. President Esther Kontos started off the event by manning the collection table on October 18.

# MAIDS OF ATHENA

## BY DISTRICT ADVISOR TO MAIDS: RANO BELLAS

### Tallahassee Chapter

"So recently we've been mainly focusing on getting the girls more active within the chapter, but we recently went to DC for the leadership conference, initiated 3 girls into our chapter, and this weekend we volunteered with the local symphony to run a trick or treat booth for kids with a game. Then we also had our Greek festival. Alexa our vice president loves taking photos and is much better than I am so I'm still waiting on her pictures, but here is what I have."

Love in Pi Alpha,  
Magnolia Parmer  
Adelphi #279  
Tallahassee, FL  
Maids of Athena

"Empowering young women since 1930."



# CHAPTER EVENTS

Nov 16- Ft Lauderdale Narcissus 289 Fashion Show-[flyer](#)

Dec 22-Clearwater-AHEPA Family Christmas Dinner Dance-Safety Harbor

Dec 31-West Palm Beach-NYE Dance

Jan 5-6 Epiphany Weekend events

Mar 1-Clearwater Fashion Show -Save the date

Mar 9- West Palm Beach Fashion Show -Save the date

Mar 23-Greek Independence Day Parade Tarpon Springs

# GREEK FESTIVAL DATES

Nov 1-3 Orlando- Holy Trinity Greek Festival- [link](#)

Nov 1-3 New Port Richey St George Fall Festival-[flyer](#)

Nov 7-10 Daytona Beach-St Demetrios Greek Festival [link](#)

Nov 8-10 Jacksonville-St John the Divine-Greek Festival-[link](#)