



**CITRUS DISTRICT 2 CONVENTION
SAFETY HARBOR, FLORIDA
MINUTES
JUNE 16-17, 2023**

I. Opening Ceremonies

Call to Order on Friday, June 16, 2023 at 9:10am.

AHEPA District 2 Governor Jerry Galovic opened the annual AHEPA and DOP District 2 conventions. Pledge of Allegiance was recited, American and Greek anthems were sung, and a prayer was given by PSG Charles Stamoulis. The past and current Grand and District Lodge members were acknowledged. The Mayor of Safety Harbor Joe Ayoub gave his welcome and read the Proclamation of AHEPA Family D2 Convention Day today.

District Governor Ann Pirrello 356 welcomed the delegates to the Daughters of Penelope 90th Annual District 2 Convention and reviewed the protocols of the convention.

Introduction of District Lodge Members:

District Governor (DG) Ann Pirrello 356, District Lieutenant Governor (DLtG) Dorothy Xanos 186, District Secretary (DS) Iliyana Simeonova-Boyce 372, District Treasurer (DT) Stella Stringer 289, District Marshall (DM) Mona Monezis Kapakos 289 (absent), District Advisor to the Maids of Athena (DMOAA) Nina Pazos 186, D2 Lodge Advisor PGG/PDG Stella Sirks 189.

Lt. Governor escorted Worthy Sisters:

DLtG Dorothy Xanos escorted Sister Patty Didik 356 Grand Governor Zone II and Citrus District 2 Liaison and Sister Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 Grand Maids of Athena Advisor into the meeting.

DG Ann Pirrello 356 declared this convention meeting officially open.

In Memoriam presented by Citrus District 2 Lodge Officers

The District Lodge read the poem and Sisters lost in the last year.

Introduction of Past Grand Officers and Past District Governors

Past Grand Officers and Past District Governors were acknowledged: PDG Alice Aspras 289, PDG/GG Patty Didik 356, PDG Penny Karantonis 372, PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289, PDG Marie Kyriacou 372, PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372, PGG/PDG Joanne Sackedis 186, PGG/PDG Stella Sirks 189, PGP/PDG Nicky Stamoulis 210, PGP/PDG Sonja Stefanadis 186, PDG Ourania Stephanides 167.

Roll Call of Delegates and Voting Strength by District Secretary

Roll Call of Delegates was performed.

Total voting strength was 43.

Appointment of Tellers and Sentinels by District Governor

Ann Marie Ryan 356 - teller

Stella Androutsopoulos 289 - teller

Mindy Speck-Wierzbicki 289 - sentinel

Election of Convention Officers:

Convention Chairman: Dolly Vatikiotis 62, nominated by Paulette Rhome 62, was elected.



Convention Vice Chairman: Christina Zervas 356, nominated by Tina Wilson 356, was elected.

Convention Secretary: Maria Gregory 210, nominated by PGP/PDG Nicky Stamoulis 210, was elected. Convention officers took their oath and commenced their duties.

Acceptance of the Convention Agenda:

Diana Psetas 356 moved to accept the Convention Agenda, seconded by PDG Alice Aspras 289, passed by the Delegates.

Convention Secretary Maria Gregory 210 began reading the 2022 D2 Convention minutes included in the convention packet. During the reading, PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 moved that the minutes not be read in their entirety, but that we be given 10 minutes to read them and then offer corrections, seconded by Diana Psetas 356, passed by the Delegates.

After this time period, corrections were offered by Kathy Pantelis 186, DMOAA Nina Pazos 186, Esther Kontos 62, Ann Marie Ryan 356, Christina Zervas 356, and PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289.

Tina Wilson 356 moved that, as of 2024, the minutes from the previous convention be emailed to the delegates no later than 3 days prior to the Convention for review, seconded by PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372, and passed by the Delegates.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 moved to accept the minutes of the 2022 District Convention with the corrections above, seconded by Kathy Pantelis 186, passed by the Delegates.

II. Discussion and Committee Reports:

a) Growth and Expansion

PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 suggested that chapters who had the largest number of initiates should present how they grew their chapters.

PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372 suggested that we meet along with AHEPAns and keep meetings to 45 minutes, set agenda, and keep it concise.

Dolly Vatikiotis 62 said that Periboea 62 had 27 new members last year and 9 new members this year. Non-Greeks are encouraged; they had different events and fund raisers, a mix of formal and informal meetings, complimentary dinners, dinners out, concerts, and lots of outreach. She recommended that we smile, encourage, and discuss how great DOP is.

Christina Zervas 356 suggested that we go to community and other functions, festivals, and game nights- DOP vs. AHEPAns.

PDG Alice Aspras 289 said that Narcissus had a new and young president who brought in new young members and suggested some Saturday meetings to encourage younger working members.

PGP/PDG Nicky Stamoulis 210 said that Aeneas is a small chapter, but that having potluck dinners in members' homes was doubling meeting attendance- socialize first then have discussion. Younger members bringing their friends.

PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 383 moved to allow GG Patty Didik to remove her jewels to speak as a Sister of Citrus District 2, seconded by Dorothy Xanos 186, passed by the Delegates.

b) Ways and Means

Tina Wilson 356 explained AHEPA 489 Charities 501C3 fundraising annual bus trip raising money for district project.

PDG Stella Sirks 189 was concerned that this nonprofit does not fall within bylaws.

Diane Psetas 356 said that AHEPA 489 charities allow for giving through the 501C3; DOP has separate fundraising.

PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372 described 501C3 as AHEPA umbrella.

Lina Kitsos 210 asked about 501C3 donations.

PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 stated that 501C3 is AHEPA; DOP has 501C10.

PDG/GG Patty Didik 356 stated that the difference has tax consequences.



PGP/PDG Sonja Stefanadis 186 discussed setting up DOP Foundation 501C3 nationally, as scholarship funds now up over \$1million. Eros 356 has set up their own nonprofit foundation.

c) Projects

PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372 stated that Cassandra 372 chapter has reached out to nearby local school, providing Valentine's goodie bags, supplies for their "store," allowing underprivileged students to "shop" there as rewards for good behavior.

Dolly Vatikiotis 62 hosted BLINGO; they rented Elks Lodge, sisters donated jewelry, handbags and other gifts. Refreshments were provided by the Sisters, played BLINGO, raised \$3K, then after the 10 games of BINGO, the remainder of the prizes were raffled off.

Dorothy Xanos 186 discussed Pelias 186 Fashion Show, raised over \$10K, proceeds went to Clothes to Kids, DOP Foundation and local AHEPA Family scholarships. It was a successful event with men and women attending, and men and women modeling the fashions.

PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 said that Narcissus 289 partnered with the Hellenic Culture Society, hosting Greek films, movies, wine pairings, art events, and cooking lessons.

Stella Stringer 289 encouraged attending other DOP and community events. Narcissus 289 fashion show proceeds donated to PACE. They paired with Philoptochos for Feeding South Florida, grew Hellenic Professional Women's Group. They paired with Ft. Myers DOP for Hurricane Ian relief. She suggested that Saturday meetings are key. She asked how did Pelias fashion show make \$10K instead of \$5K?

Dorothy Xanos 186 stated that all raffle items were donated, sponsorships were elicited at \$100, \$500 and \$1000 levels, and raffle ticket sales all helped with raising large amounts of money. Personal thank you notes and recognition in program helps tremendously in asking for repeat sponsorships in future years. Ticket price stayed reasonable (\$50), due to volume. DOP sisters brought friends and neighbors. Clothes to Kids and AHEPA Clearwater scholarships benefitted.

LeeAnn Lamby 186 stated that doing large events every other year may help with getting sponsors.

PDG Ourania Stephanides 167 stated that having a relevant speaker from the charities benefiting helps.

Dolly Vatikiotis 62 discussed story from speaker.

Dorothy Xanos 186 mentioned that the DOP Fashion show occurs one year, and the Philoptochos Festival of Tables the next year alternating.

Break at 11:00 for 10 minutes.

Reconvened at 11:10.

d) Maids of Athena

DMOAA Nina Pazos 186 said we are having trouble keeping chapters active. We have 2 chapters in District 2. Young ladies have busy lives. Daughters of Penelope with young daughters should be asked to be Advisors for MOA chapters. Our young ladies are our future, as they will be DOP in the future.

PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 discussed our young women as amazing, professional women, using MOA as a guide and to build leadership and as a resume item. Tarpon Springs and Tallahassee have chapters. The Tallahassee chapter is sponsored by FSU. We should encourage all cities with state schools to host chapters. MOA has travelled around the country and to Greece. Need to bridge Maids into Daughters.

PGP/PDG Sonja Stefanadis 186 asked about age limit and dual memberships.

PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 responded that the age group for MOA is 14-28. After age 24, they can transfer into DOP. They should not pay dues for both.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 asked if they can be involved with both. Maids should be encouraged to attend DOP meetings and events.

Kathy Pantelis 186 asked if we could waive their fees to encourage young women to enter the Daughters, not currently in place.

DT Stella Stringer 289 asked how FSU allowed MOA as a group, receive funds from the state for expenses and conventions.



PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 said that they have to have a sponsor involved in the school; an AHEPAN at FSU is the sponsor.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 stated that MOA can form lifelong friendships and relationships. Our DOP chapters need to sponsor MOA chapters, help with convention registration costs, and invite them to DOP meetings and events.

PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 suggested that social media in this age group is hugely important. PGG/PDG Joanne Sackedis 186 asked Periboea 62 how they are helping support their MOA in Tarpon Springs.

Louisa Delaportas 62 discussed the amazing active chapter at Tarpon Springs. All MOA and their mothers were invited to DOP end of the year luncheon. They did several fund raisers and charity events like selling tsourekia on Palm Sunday, Fight Hunger food program, soup kitchen Feeding Tampa Bay, Habitat for Humanity, cards and fundraiser for NICU patients, Snow Place like Home bake sale, Epiphany events, Valentine's Day bake sale, Friendsgiving event. Their MOA chapter is mostly aged 18-21, use zoom meetings; flexibility is key for Maids.

e) Scholarship

Chair Kathy Pantelis 186 expressed her deepest gratitude to Committee: Kathy Pantelis 186, Carol Makris 356, Paulette Rhome 62, Dolly Vatikiotis 62, Loretta Christopoul 62, Tina Wilson 356, Maria Gregory 210, PDG Penny Karantonis 372, and Ann Marie Ryan 356.

Digital means were used for scholarship forms, submissions, organization and review. Modifications to be made as needed. Specific google email used, and applications put into Google Drive, streamlined. Confirmations were sent out to applicants by email. Links were sent out to committee members, and a zoom meeting was held for selection.

Scholarships given:

D2 DOP Scholarship \$1000 Alexandra Christodoulakis

PDG Julie Microutsicos \$1000 Sabrina Tonello

PDG Elizabeth Tsimekles \$2000 Alexandra Christodoulakis

Continuing Education Scholarship \$500 Deborah Abdo-Danbrosio

Diane Trimis 167 asked about the D2 and Tsimekles scholarship going to the same person. The Tsimekles scholarship can go to the same applicant as the D2 or Microutsicos scholarship.

LeeAnn Lamby 186 asked where the money comes from.

PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 stated that money comes from assessments, the scholarship funds, or fundraising.

PDG Maria Kyriacou 372 asked that a motion for increasing the amount of scholarships be delayed until after lunch and the PDG meeting.

PDG Alice Aspras 289 asked when the Microutsicos scholarship was increased to \$1000.

Kathy Pantelis 186 stated that that was passed last year.

f) Penelope of the Year

Chair Stella Androutsopoulos 289 discussed that there were only 2 applicants this year. The committee recommended that the application be simplified, as it is difficult to fill out. This was discussed last year as well, but nothing was done. There was also some discussion about not needing to have been involved at the National level to become Penelope of the Year. Chapters should help/guide the potential Penelope to fill out the application.

Committee members included: Stella Androutsopoulos 289, PDG Stella Sirks 189, PGP/PDG Nicky Stamoulis 210, PDG Ourania Stephanides 167, Maria Balasis Zahn 59, Christina Zervas 356.

DG Ann Pirrello stated that each chapter should fill out a Penelope of the Year application.

PDG Stella Sirks 189 suggested that the forms be typed.

PDG Penny Karantonis 372 stated that the form is awful; point system is horrible. We should make a written recommendation to be sent to National to improve the forms.



DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186 also recommended improvement of the form and the scoring sheet.
PDG Penny Karantonis 372 moved that we recommend the Penelope of the Year form be revised in form and technical issues and the point system simplified, seconded by DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186.
Discussion included: Maria Gregory 210 suggested that the application be available online and submitted online.
PGP/PDG Nicky Stamoulis 210 agreed with digitization.
DS Iliyana Simeonova-Boyce 372 recommended that the digital form be corrected in its form, as the "fill in" form is too small.
DG Ann Pirrello 356 recommended that the Penelope of the Year D2 committee meet once more this year to revamp the form for submission to National.
PGP/PDG Sonja Stefanadis 186 recommended that delegates to National Convention should be on the committee to discuss.
Kathy Pantelis 186 asked if D2 could make its own form, which was declined.
DT Stella Stringer 289 recommended clear instructions to fill out the form. Platform matters.

The amended motion stated that the Penelope of the Year form be revised in form and technical issues, the point system simplified, the process be digitized (available online, submitted online), and clear instructions given for filling it out. This amended motion was passed by the delegation.

Break for lunch 12:04.

Meeting resumed at 2:03. Total voting strength was 41.

DLtG Dorothy Xanos explained the plans for the evening's events- Casino Night/Dinner.

g) Budget and Audit

Chair PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 presented the actual 2022-2023 budget. See attached. Committee: Stephanie Giallourakis 186, Mary-Jeane Huber 59, Lina Kitsos 210, Jackie Philippoussi 59, Tula Mancini 356, DT Stella Stringer 289, DG Ann Pirrello 356, DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186- zoom tech.

PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 asked why we paid for 7 convention registrations since one of the Lodge is not here; PDG Stella Sirks 189 responded that DM Mona Monezis Kapakos 289 was a last minute drop due to a family emergency.

PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 presented the Actual Income for the year. See attached.

Esther Kontos 62 asked why the fundraiser expense was so high.

PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 explained that the Murder Mystery dinner theater was expensive.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 explained that at the time of formulating the budget, the fundraiser is not known, so it is difficult to set an amount. Expenses and income can come in earlier or later than the year period being presented.

PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 presented the Proposed 2023-2024 Expenses. See attached.

PGG/PDG Joanne Sackedis 186 suggested that since the 2024 convention will be in Cyprus, we will need international funding.

PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 stated that that will need to go into next year's budget.

DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186 suggested that we will need to put more money into the DS account.

PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 recommended that we take some money (\$50) from district project and put into DS expenses.

Lina Kitsos 210 asked why there was no district workshop funds budgeted for this year.

PDG/GMOAA Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 explained that this year the workshop was online, so District Workshop monetary needs were \$0.

PGG/PDG Joanne Sackedis 186 asked how many participated in the workshop.

DG Ann Pirrello 356 and DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186 stated that 35-40 people participated by zoom.



PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 read the Proposed 2023-2024 Income. See attached. She discussed that she would recommend removing the \$500 for the Continuing Education Scholarship. Kathy Pantelis 186 explained that it is rarely applied for; the current applicant is on her 2nd year and will be ineligible next year. Ann Marie Ryan 356 recommended that we increase the continuing education scholarship to \$1000. LeeAnn Lamby 186 stated that despite the information sent out about this scholarship, we rarely have applicants. Kathy Pantelis 186 stated that perhaps people don't apply due to vanity. PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 recommended that we take \$500 for CE scholarship out of budget to balance the budget. The Microutsicos scholarship is through the PDG funding, so it does not need to be put into the budget.

Proposals:

Line 33: change of date to 6/1/23.
Line 36: change to beginning balance after expenses.
Line 38: write every check number that has not cleared.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 moved to accept the budget, seconded by Mary-Jeane Huber 59. Discussion: Vicky Sboukis 62 asked about adding Continuing Education scholarship to budget on both sides (income and expense), as there is no money coming in for that; this was declined. Kathy Pantelis 186 suggested that since Stephanie Giallourakis 186 is on the budget committee, she would like to make the motion if Stephanie Giallourakis 186 is agreeable (she is). Kathy Pantelis 186 moved to accept the budget with amendments as discussed above, seconded by Mary-Jeane Huber 59, and the budget was passed unanimously.

h) PDG report

PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 presented report; PDGs adding \$1000 for Continuing Education or Trade School scholarship; same person can only win twice. Stephanie Giallourakis 186 asked if the PDGs will write their own checks. PDG Stella Sirks 189 said that PDGs have their own account, will write their own checks: District will evaluate and choose the scholarship winners.

Kathy Pantelis 186 moved to remove the current Continuing Education Scholarship and replace with PDG Trade School/Continuing Education Scholarship for \$1000, seconded by DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186, passed by the Delegates. PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 moved that checks for PDG scholarship will be written from PDG account, seconded by PDG Stella Sirks 189. Discussion: DT Stella Stringer 289 asked for clarity for the DT in order to write the checks properly. PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 stated that if it says PDG scholarship, checks will be written from the PDG account. Kathy Pantelis 186 discussed the process after determination of the winners. The motion was passed by the Delegates.

III. District Lodge Officers' Reports

DG Ann Pirrello 356 welcomed the Delegates. She discussed the Power of WE! She discussed having the support of her Sisters through family issues; she did the best she could. She was able to visit Daytona chapter; she was able to collect \$1200 in gift cards to help with Hurricane Ian, sent thank you cards.



DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186 was happy to see the Delegates; she was able to travel and met DOP Sisters in London, met a Sister there that she had met on a zoom committee for the charity walk. She attended Epiphany, BLINGO, Family Feud, and Kentucky Derby party. The delegates here all do a lot for their chapters; nothing we do is small; listen to all of the ideas.

DS Iliyana Simeonova-Boyce 372 thanked the Delegates for attending, so that we can learn from each other, sharing our experiences. We have the power and the passion to do good things in our communities. We want to continue learning; we will have a great year.

DT Stella Stringer 289 laughed about becoming DT. She was able to learn from the Budget committee what is occurring line by line. She was able to visit different chapters this year. Scholarships are the biggest gift that we can give to our young ladies; we need to raise more money to give more. Rituals are important to keep our traditions and keep our organization going. We have a strong district and will continue to move ahead.

DMOAA Nina Pazos 186 said that planning a convention was exhilarating for her; she likes to see the moving parts come together like a well-oiled machine. She was proud to be a part of this; it was a lot of work to make it a fun, productive convention. She was able to meet a lot of the Maids individually and march in the parade. The MOA are little versions of us. Thanks to all of the advisors; we need to guide and mentor them. Looking forward to what the new year holds.

DA/PDG Stella Sirks 189 said it's been a pleasure working with some very great women. She attempted to give the best advice she could. We have a wonderful district here, working together. This year we have new faces and hope to see more next year. We are all part of a wonderful organization. She wishes the new Lodge great success next year and hopes to retire.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 moved to accept the District Lodge Officers' reports, seconded by LeeAnn Lamby 186.

Dolly Vatikiotis 62 thanked the Lodge for everything they have done this year.
The motion was passed by the Delegates.

DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186 again discussed the plans for this evening's events-casino night and buffet and the plans for tomorrow. Reconvene tomorrow morning 9 am; continental breakfast 8-9 am.

DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186 moved to recess, seconded by DMOAA Nina Pazos 186 seconded, passed by the Delegates.

Recessed at 3:19 pm 6/16/23.

Saturday, June 17, 2023

Joint meeting with AHEPA and DOP opened at 9:09am.

Dr. Branko van Oppen, expert in Greek and Roman Art at the Tampa Museum of Art located at Curtis Hixon Park spoke; the museum has hundreds of antiquities from Greece and art influenced by Ancient Greek art. There are over 300 pieces in their collection. He gave an interesting lecture and invited all delegates to visit.

D2 AHEPA Family Scholarship Report:

PSG Charles Stamoulis 15 introduced the D2 Scholarship and Selection Committee Members. Raffle funds make up most of the funds for the scholarships; PDG/DA Stella Sirks 189 leads the raffle committee.

West Pasco chapter donated \$2500 towards scholarships this year.



PGP/PDG Nicky Stamoulis 210 announced the D2 Scholarship recipients.

High School Graduates:

John N Tsimekles Memorial #1 \$1,000 to Alexandra Vagelos, Boca Raton
St. Petersburg AHEPA 15 & DOP 210 \$1,000 to George Hurst, St. Petersburg
Angelo Langadas Memorial #1 \$1,000 to Alexander Makris, West Pasco
AHEPA Chapter #489 Charities Inc. #1 \$1,000 to Anna Markos, Clearwater
Jordan Joanides Memorial \$750 to Leonidas Markos, Clearwater
John N. Tsimekles Memorial #2 \$500 to Isabella Valladares, Boca Raton

Upper Class/College Students:

AHEPA District 2 Lodge Scholarship \$1,000 to Maria Carolina Horey, Boca Raton
Angelo Langadas Memorial #2 \$1,000 to Christos Skoundridakis, Boca Raton
Tony Callisis Memorial \$750 to Sabrina Kate Tonello, New Port Richey
PGP Nicky and PSG Charles Stamoulis \$750 to Katerina Portellos, Clearwater
Louis P. Logas Memorial \$500 to Thomas Chicles, Orlando
Steno Augustine Memorial \$500 to George Bouziotis

PSG Charles Stamoulis 15 discussed the transfer of funds from AHEPA Family Scholarship St. Petersburg to D2 Scholarship Foundation. PGP/PDG Nicky Stamoulis 210 expounded on the process. PDG Demetrios Kirkiles discussed the endowment process.

The legal documents were then signed by the AHEPA James Scofield Chapter 15 President Jimmy Detsis, DOP Aeneas Chapter 210 President representative Maria Gregory, AHEPA St. Petersburg Family Scholarship Chair Nicky Stamoulis, AHEPA Family D2 Scholarship Chair Charles Stamoulis, AHEPA District Governor Jim Galovic, DOP District Governor Ann Pirrello, SOP District Governor George Sofikitis, and DMOAA Advisor Eftyhia Kirkiles.

Supreme Vice President Lou Atsaves gave a few words about the "E" in AHEPA. As of this year, AHEPA will have given over \$25,000,000 in scholarships.

The St. Petersburg AHEPA Family Scholarship Committee gave a \$20,000 check to the D2 AHEPA Family Scholarship fund.

DOP convention came to order, opened by Convention Chair Dolly Vatikiotis 62 at 10:38am.

Roll Call was taken by DS Iliyana Simeonova-Boyce 372.

Voting strength was 42 at 10:43am.



IV. Chapter Reports

West Palm Beach Leda 59: Maria Balasis Zahn 59 said that Leda had 9 in-person meetings, a Christmas party, a successful fashion show, a successful garage sale, sold Christmas cards, participated in the Alzheimer's walk, and initiated 5 new members.

Tarpon Springs Periboea 62: Dolly Vatikiotis 62 said that Periboea sent hygiene kits to IOCC and homeless shelter; their raffle raised over \$4,000, most given to high school students and Greek school students, elementary schools, headquarters disaster relief, Ft. Myers church for disaster relief. They had a veteran speaker, marched in Independence Day parade, hosted Epiphany Ball, had visits from Grand Lodge, initiated 10 new members. Their BLINGO event cleared \$3,500, planning for again next year, proceeds went to Honor Flight, Clothes to Kids, Greek Children's Fund of Florida.

Tampa Alcmaeon 167: PDG Ourania Stephanides 167 said Alcmaeon has 27 members, initiated 1 new member, more to come. Their theme was "Collaborate;" they had a joint instillation with AHEPA and awarded scholarships, sponsored koliva and coffee hour for Founders' Day, donated flameless candles for children for Pascha, celebrated 25 years of Fr. Stavros, started a Book Club, which they called BCD club (book, cinema, dinner). They manned the salad room at their Festival, made emergency adult kits, and emergency school kits (postage paid for by a generous stranger at Fed Ex), and participated in the Walk for Alzheimers.

Clearwater Pelias 186: Stephanie Giallourakis 186 said that Pelias hosted their fashion show, provided flowers for the church for Easter and Christmas, had dinners with the AHEPA Family, a membership social, picnic, chili cookoff, themed snacks for meetings, adopted family from Haven House for Christmas.

Orlando Pelion 189: PDG/DA Stella Sirks189 said that they had 5 new members this year; their best fundraiser was loukoumades sales. They had a Christmas party with AHEPA, raised funds for scholarships, sold wreaths and centerpieces for Christmas, had luncheon meetings, a Thanksgiving potluck, manned the festival bakery, made Easter memorial crosses, hosted Kentucky Derby party, had a parishioner speaker from LAMS, went on a Limbitless tour, hosted a Mother's Day brunch and gave scholarship awards.

St. Petersburg Aeneas 210: Lina Kitsos 210 said that they added 5 new members, 25 total, with 3 to be inducted next year. We hosted Founders' Day koliva and coffee hour, gave \$1000 to St. Stefanos roof fund, donated to the food pantry, Kind Mouse, Free Clinic, and Vincent House, had speakers, provided flowers for Easter and Christmas, raised money with Countdown to Christmas raffle and Kentucky Derby party, attended Clearwater Fashion Show and Tarpon Springs BLINGO, and had evening potluck meetings, which raised attendance.



Ft. Lauderdale Narcissus 289: Mindy Speck-Wierzbicki 289 said they donated to Ft Myers church after Hurricane Ian and elementary schools, support the Hellenic Cultural Society, Covenant House, Walkathon for Cancer Research, PACE luncheon, and will be sponsoring a Fashion show 11/4/23 (all are invited), and helped with SOP/MOA Volleyball tournament.

Daytona Beach Sybils 343 not represented today.

New Port Richey Eros 356: Ann Marie Ryan 356 said they had visits from Pasco Sheriff department dogs, Heroes in Action, and host 3 Bingo events a year. They hosted a Thanksgiving dinner at West Pasco AHEPA house for 50 elderly residents, the elementary school sang carols and received kits. They took a boat ride, had a Vasilopita meeting, donated to Habitat for Humanity who built 800 houses in Pasco County and PACE, hosted a Quarter auction, donated to Lighthouse for the Blind, Limbitless, and a Domestic Violence home. They had 10 new members, 5 more this year.

Boca Raton Cassandra 372: DS Iliyana Simeonova-Boyce 372 said they initiated 14 new members, hosted a coffee hour fundraiser, funded HS seniors, elementary school goodie bags, Salute to Women, Walk for Alzheimers, Toys for Tots, and had restaurant meetings with AHEPA.

Diane Trimis 167 moved to accept Chapter Reports, seconded by Kathy Pantelis 186, passed by the Delegates.

Sons of Pericles presentation:

Dino Giallourakis discussed current Sons Chapters in Ft. Lauderdale, Orlando, and Tallahassee. They are interested in opening more chapters. Thanks to DOP ladies for support and donations.

National SOP/MOA raffle tickets are available for \$20; prizes \$1500 and \$500.

V. Unfinished Business:

Legislative Discussion:

Voting strength at 12:02 was 41.

Ritual Revision 2023 Side by Side with 2011 Ritual. See Attachment.

PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 and GG/PDG Patty Didik 356 presented recommended changes to the ritual.

PDG Alice Aspras 289 was concerned about the removal of warden, marshal, priestess and sentinel.

DG Ann Pirrello 356 stated that she would like to have positions stay the same.

Christina Zervas 356 would like to have positions stay the same.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 held same position, opposed to new resolution, as this is what makes DOP different from other organizations.

PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372 described the ad hoc committee who meets Monday nights. Ad hoc committee has approved that each chapter can use Ritual book as a guide, not hard rules.

PDG Ourania Stephanides 167 appreciated what the ad hoc committee approved.

Diana Psetas 356 asked if we should move to accept the changes, but PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372 suggested that we go through all of the changes.

Esther Kontos 62 asked if we are going to accept what the ad hoc committee submitted or what they have put together for the ritual changes.



PDG Sonja Stefanadis 186 suggested that we hear the changes made by chapter recommendations one by one.

Lina Kitsos 210 asked if we will vote in total or change by change.

PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 read a letter from Ft. Lauderdale that agreed with streamlining the process.

GG/PDG Patty Didik 356 read a letter from Pelias 186 Clearwater chapter who disagreed with removing marshal, priestess, warden and sentinel, and the change in set up. They suggested making this optional for small chapters. They also suggested that small chapters doing rituals can assign the positions as needed. They recommended a change the name of Priestess to something more modern.

Diana Psetas 356 stated that all of the recommendations be guides or optional for small chapters.

Dolly Vatikiotis 62 said that Tarpon Springs priest is not in favor of AHEPA/DOP due to "ritual;" they are unable to utilize church facilities for meetings, etc.

PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372 read synonyms for Priestess.

Tina Wilson 356 suggested Deaconess or Manual instead of Priestess and Ritual. She agrees with keeping the traditions and what makes us unique, but each chapter needs to act according to its needs.

PDG Ourania Stephanides suggested Invoker or Herete in place of Priestess.

DMOAA Nina Pazos 186 suggested Benedictionist in place of Priestess.

PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372 stated that we need to change it to a non religious name. We need to become more modern, make meetings shorter

Kathy Pantelis 186 suggested Prayer Officiant or Blessing Officiant.

Vicky Sboukis 62 suggested Prayer Reader.

PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 read a letter from Eros 356 that requested "Smoking, knitting, and chewing gum are not permitted" be removed. Also suggested password should be removed and "loyalty to Mother Lodge" should be removed.

PDG Ourania Stephanides 167 said lots of things have changed due to electronic methods, so we do not need things like passwords.

PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372 said that passwords can be useful visiting other chapters, since we do not have cards anymore.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 asked why we are reading emails from chapter and if we will then have to go over the recommendations from the ad hoc committee.

DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186 recommended that we read emails from chapters, then go through ritual.

GMOAA/PDG Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 suggests we go through the changes one by one and vote.

DG Ann Pirrello 356 received emails from some chapters, but not all. We need to highlight comments.

GMOAA/PDG Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 said that we will not be going through the entire ritual revision packet.

GG/PDG Patty Didik 356 read recommendations from the District Lodge, which are to translate the Greek language responses, remove "knitting, smoking, chewing gum, etc," and keep the original room set up.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 moved that the positions of Marshal, Sentinel, Priestess and Warden not be removed, but that they be optional for smaller chapters, seconded by Tina Wilson 356.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 amended her motion that the positions of Marshal, Sentinel, Priestess and Warden not be removed, but that they be optional, seconded by LeeAnn Lamby 186, and passed by the Delegates.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 moved that the room set up remain the same, but be optional for smaller chapters, seconded by LeeAnn Lamby 186.

PDG Ourania Stephanides 167 recommended that "smaller chapters" be removed.



Stephanie Giallourakis 186 amended her motion to retain the room set up, making the alternative set up optional according to the needs of each chapter, seconded by DMOAA Nina Pazos 186, passed by the Delegates.

We discussed the following words to take the place of Priestess: Invoker, Benedictionist, Prayer Reader, Blessing Reader, Reader, Prayer Officiant.

PDG Penny Karantonis 372 suggested Lector.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 said that we are trying to change the word to a non-religious word, but that we are saying a prayer, so this is counterintuitive.

LeeAnn Lamby 186 suggested Lector: a reader especially at church services.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 moved that we submit the following names to the ad hoc committee: Invoker, Benedictionist, Lector, Prayer Reader, Blessing Reader, Reader, Prayer Officiant.

Carol Makris 356 seconded, passed by the Delegates.

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 moved to recess, seconded by PDG Marie Kyriacou 372, passed by the Delegates.

Recessed at 12:20pm. Plan to restart at 1:30pm.

Meeting called to order at 1:50pm.

Roll call done by DS Iliyana Simeonova-Boyce 372.

Total Voting Strength was 41 at 1:52pm.

Tina Wilson 356 suggested that we change the word Warden to Curator; she will send her recommendation to the ad hoc committee.

VI. New Business:

Esther Kontos 62 moved that we recommend to National to reinstate life memberships for members over 50 years, seconded by Ann Marie Ryan 356.

Discussion: Christina Zervas 356 asked how many years and what is involved.

LeeAnn Lamby 186 asked if that involves waiving per capita and chapter dues.

Paulette Rhome 62 responded per capita.

PGG/PDG Joanne Sackedis 186 read the bylaws which state that per capita was waived for women with 50 completed continuous years prior to 1/1/1999. National needs to pay their bills.

Esther Kontos 62 suggested that the Grand President cut her travel expenses to pay for this.

Christina Zervas 356 stated that their chapter pays per capita dues for their members over 50 years.

PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 agreed; if your chapter feels strongly, your chapter can do so.

Esther Kontos 62 amended her motion to forward to Supreme Convention to reinstate waiving per capita dues for life members with continuous membership > 50 years, seconded by Paulette Rhome 62; the motion did not carry.

VII. Nominations and Election of District Lodge Officers

District Governor:

DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186 nominated DG Ann Pirrello 356, who declined.



DG Ann Pirrello 356 nominated DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186, who declined.
PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 nominated DT Stella Stringer 289, who declined.
Recessed for 5 minutes at 2:09 pm.

Called to order 2:12 pm.

DS Iliyana Simeonova-Boyce 372 performed roll call.

Voting Strength was 39 at 2:15 pm.

District Governor:

GMOAA/PDG Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 nominated PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 37, who accepted.
Elected: PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372

District Lt. Governor:

PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372 nominated DS Iliyana Simeonova-Boyce 372, who accepted.
Elected: Iliyana Simeonova-Boyce 372

District Secretary:

Stella Androutsopoulos 289 nominated DT Stella Stringer 289, who accepted.
Elected: Stella Stringer 289

District Treasurer:

GG/PDG Patty Didik 356 nominated Diana Psetas 356, who accepted.
Elected: Diana Psetas 356

District Marshal:

Kathy Pantelis 186 nominated DMOAA Nina Pazos 186, who accepted.
Ann Marie Ryan 356 nominated Kalliope Valentine 59, who accepted.
Tellers handed out ballots, collected, and counted them
Elected: Nina Pazos 186

District Advisor to the Maids of Athena

DG Ann Pirrello 356 nominated Rano Bellas 59, as Rano Bellas 59 had sent a letter of intent, and a letter of good standing was received from her chapter. See attached.
Elected: Rano Bellas 59

District Advisor to the Lodge

DG Ann Pirrello 356 accepted.
Elected: Ann Pirrello 356

VIII. Good of the Order and Announcements

Stephanie Giallourakis 186 moved that the ballots be destroyed, seconded by DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186, passed by the Delegates.

Stella Androutsopoulos 289 stated that only 2 cities host the Greek Film Festival, and this year the Hellenic Society in Ft. Lauderdale will be joining them. She invites us to join them at end of October.



DG Ann Pirrello 356 stated that National DOP is continuing to work on Archives.

Esther Kontos 62 asked if they would like old newspaper articles.

DG Ann Pirrello 356 said that they are not sure what they will be collecting, will formulate a plan then collect items.

GMOAA/PDG Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 thanked the Convention Chair, Co-Chair and Secretary. She also announced that she will be running for Grand Maids of Athena Advisor again in Las Vegas.

DLt G Dorothy Xanos 186 wanted to discuss the ZOOM meetings for committees that were done, as some sisters were concerned.

PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372 had been concerned about ZOOM previously, but after this year, she has changed her mind. She feels that budget and scholarship can be done by ZOOM, but that Penelope of the Year should be done at convention.

PGG/PDG Joanne Sakedis 186 felt that in person at convention is preferable, as people can meet each other and ask questions.

PDG/DA Stella Sirks 189 disagreed; ZOOM ahead of time saves time at convention.

DT Stella Stringer 289 said that young members will want ZOOM meetings, not in person. Chairs must be efficient, time limited, should know how to operate zoom, photos should be on. Continuation is key; transitions should be effective.

Ann Marie Ryan 356 agreed that ZOOM meetings are effective, but perhaps short meetings day prior to convention could be helpful.

PDG Marie Kyriacou 372 suggested shorter conventions since we are utilizing ZOOM.

PDG/DA Stella Sirks 189 noted that most district conventions around the country are one day.

Diana Psetas 356 invited us to Asheville on a bus trip October 22-27, 2023, hosted by AHEPA 489 Charities. This fundraising will go to Limbitless. They will also be hosting the Yassou cruise June 15-21, 2024, on Royal Caribbean Adventure of the Seas. See Tina Wilson 356 for more details.

PGP/PDG Nicky Stamoulis 210 congratulated the convention officers. She explained the Countdown to Christmas raffle that Aeneas 210 is doing this year again.

Christina Zervas 356 is expecting a grandbaby this weekend. September 8 is Pasco Citizen of the Year at Spartan Manor; Judith Koutsos will be receiving the honor; all are invited. She suggested we encourage our scholarship recipients to join the Maids of Athena and Daughters of Penelope.

Mary-Jeane Huber 59 was thankful for the fundraising ideas all of the chapters discussed. She suggested that perhaps more information on each event can be available in the future.

Christina Zervas 356 suggests all chapter presidents get together for ZOOM to discuss timing of events and fundraising instructions.

IX. Remarks from Grand Lodge Officers:

Sister Patty Didik 356 Grand Governor Zone II and Citrus District 2 – Liaison said that she has been a Daughter for 13 years and loves to share information. We have small and mighty chapters and large and fierce chapters. Little things count. Pencil pouches (her DG project) are still happening. Sisters should support Sisters. This is an amazing District. She announced that she will be running for a second term for Grand Governor Zone II.

Sister Eftyhia Kirkiles 289 Grand Maids of Athena Advisor thanked the DOP for supporting MOA.

X. Presentations:

GG/PDG Patty Didik 356 and GMOAA/PDG Eftyhia Kirkiles of the Grand Lodge presented a certificate and gifts to DG Ann Pirrello 356 for a job well done as DG this year.

DG Ann Pirrello 356 presented a check for the charity of her choice to Sister Patty Didik 356 Grand Governor Zone II and Citrus District 2 - Liaison.

The District Lodge presented DG Ann Pirrello 356 with gifts with their thanks.



DG Ann Pirrello 356 presented certificates and gifts to the Chapter Presidents, the Tellers and Sentinel, and certificates and gifts to the Convention Officers and Committee Chairs.

DA/PDG Stella Sirks presented the District Lodge Officers with gifts.

DG Ann Pirrello 356 presented the following awards:

- a) Most Initiates: 14 new initiates - Boca Raton Cassandra 372
- b) Best Communication: Tarpon Springs Periboea 62 and Ft. Lauderdale Narcissus 289
- c) Chapter of the Year: Large: New Port Richey Eros 356
Small: Tampa Alcmaeon 167
- d) Daughter of the Year: Christina Zervas 356
- e) Penelope of the Year: Tula Mancini 356

XI. Remarks by Incoming District Governor

PGP/PDG Connie Pilallis 372 will help us, and we will help her this year. We will get back to basics. She will plan to visit each chapter. She plans to set up a mentor in each chapter.

XII: Closing Prayer

DLtG Dorothy Xanos 186 presented the closing prayer. She discussed the plans for installation and this evening's activities.

XIII. Motion to Adjourn

DLtG Dorothy Xanos moved to adjourn, seconded by DMOAA Nina Pazos 186, passed by the Delegates. Convention was adjourned at 3:36 pm June 17, 2023.

Convention minutes corrected and submitted December 21, 2023 by Maria Gregory 210.