



*Daughters of Penelope District 20
Carol Stathopoulos
District Governor's Bulletin
February 2022*



Happy Valentine's Day! And Presidents' Day! And Chinese New Year! And don't forget that Groundhog. Six more weeks of Winter? Really?

Mid-Winter Conference News: With a hospitality welcome, District 20 gathered in-person once again to check in on each other and on the "condition" of the District. Opening ceremonies on Saturday were highlighted by remarks from Bishop Spyridon of Amastris, Supreme Governor Alexander Mallas, and Grand Governor Robbie Jackson. District Governors Peter Marudas and Carol Stathopoulos also welcomed the 30 Ahepans and 20 Daughters of Penelope in attendance.

The highlight of the joint morning session was an announcement by Brent Noyes, President of the El Camino Real District 20 AHEPA Scholarship Foundation, of a private foundation bequest in the amount of \$100,000 for each of the next 10 years, for the sole purpose of enhancing the amount of scholarship funds awarded to each scholarship recipient. The total bequest, over the ten year period, will add \$1,000,000 to the funds available for scholarship giving. Scholarship applications are online at AhepaDistrict20.org.

Separate sessions filled the remainder of the conference, but both the Ahepans and the Daughters held "roundtable" discussions regarding the impact of Covid-19 on membership, meeting attendance, and fundraising projects. The Sisters spoke about obstacles to recruiting new, younger members; and how to better draw in prospective members by describing the entity or project which we are representing and fundraising. It was also mentioned that instead of passively collecting funds or selling an item, to make any fundraising effort an event that people can participate in actively.

The conference ended with a wonderful Italian Dinner at the Old Spaghetti Factory.

Condolences are extended to:

PDG Pam Martinez, who lost her beloved husband Tom the morning following the District Mid-Winter Conference. One of the rare, true gentlemen of his time, Tom was known throughout the AHEPA Family, especially in District 20. Tom's funeral occurred February 1st, near his home in Pleasant Grove, UT. May his memory be eternal.

District 20 also mourns the loss of PDG Catherine Vackrinis, of Minos #159, Long Beach, CA. Catherine was a Lifetime member of the Daughters of Penelope and also served as President of the El Camino Real District 20 AHEPA Scholarship Foundation. She enjoyed traveling to District and Supreme Conventions. Her humor and her mentorship will be missed. Memory eternal.

Looking Ahead: An incredible amount of information has been posted online or sent by email these past few days from Headquarters regarding upcoming events and chapter deadlines. Please check your emails and all the data feeds at Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for recent updates and information. DaughtersofPenelope.org is the place to get the most up-to-date information, forms and applications. Plan on receiving a call from your District Governor regarding a District Visitation this Spring.

2022 Calendar:

June 2022 – District Convention – Time and Place to be arranged

July 2022 – AHEPA Family Supreme Convention, July 18 – July 22, *Disney World*, Orlando, Florida

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