



*You Heard it through...*

# THE GRAPEVINE

November, 2015

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**November Meeting, Thu., Nov. 5, 7 PM**

## **Fresno Chapter District Visitation**



Pictured above are the brothers in attendance. Front row, brothers Chris Rockas, Robert Sexton PDG PSG, District Warden Alex Bazos, District Governor Bill Anton, Supreme Governor Nick Perdaris Lt. Gov. George Zioulas, District Marshal George Buck, District Chaplain Steve Miller. Back row, brothers Fr. Jim Pappas, JD Salazar (SOP), Gus Argeres, Vasilios Booras, Tony Kocolas, Vice President Michael Stavropoulos, President Michael Gomez, board member Dr. Ted Nassar, Andy Mastoras, Treasurer Jim Boukides.

October 12, 2015 – The Fresno chapter observed the annual district lodge visitation. The visitation was highlighted by the presence of Supreme Governor Nick Perdaris. The Daughters of Penelope provided a delicious lunch. In the joint meeting, the district governors reviewed the current district projects and status. Further information was given in the chapter meetings. Our district governor commented on the dress and protocol on display and generally complimented the chapter.

<p><b>District Event in November</b></p> <p>Nov 7- DOP Founders Day luncheon San Francisco</p> <p>Nov 17- Modesto/Stockton joint visitation Modesto</p> <p>Nov 19- San Mateo visitation</p>	<p><b>Sunshine Committee</b></p> <p>Brother George Gianopulos reports that there are no new reports of ill brothers. Brothers Daniel Fischle and Dr. Con Michas are still recovering. Brother Jim Nicolaou remains in a rest home but is doing well.</p>
<p><b><u>Chapter Officers for 2015-2016</u></b></p> <p>President Michael Gomez Vice President Michael Stavropoulos Secretary Robert Sexton PSG Treasurer Jim Boukidis</p>	<p><b><u>Board of Governors</u></b></p> <p>Chairman Michael Makredes George Gianopulos Ted Nassar Steve Alfieris Alex Aretakis</p>
<p><b>Have You paid Your Dues?</b></p> <p>The latest roster from HQ lists a total of 55 members in our chapter. Of those, 10 are listed as delinquent, and 13 have not paid for 2015. Dues are only \$70 and are payable at the beginning of the calendar year. Half our membership are behind in their dues. Please, brothers, make your dues payment as soon as possible. Your support is appreciated!</p>	<p><b>November Birthdays</b> </p> <p>Gus Argeres Vasilios Booras Michael Makredes Ronald Sani</p>

### About This Issue

With the beginning of the 2015-16 term, our chapter bulletin takes on a new name and a new appearance. Since we are distributing the bulletin mostly by e-mail, it is easier to add more content, especially pictures. Brother Bill Booras edited our bulletin for many years and we cannot thank him enough for his efforts.

Now, we plan to include more about the chapter and the order. You can help by providing pictures and stories. Send them to [rdsexton57@gmail.com](mailto:rdsexton57@gmail.com). And remember, if you don't show up, your picture won't get in the bulletin. Need ideas? Did you attend an AHEPA event? Did you happen to meet a brother while on vacation? Did you help with a fund raiser or other activity? If you did, take pictures and make notes. All our brothers will be interested in your doings and you will help promote participation. Send them in, brothers. Everything is welcome.

- If you need a ride to chapter meetings, or you can give a brother a ride, let us know. Arrangements can be made to accommodate everyone.
- We are always looking for new members. Are you? Be proactive and be ready to bring in new members. You never know who will say yes...or when!
- Have you set your clocks back? If you wait until Friday, you will be sure to be an hour early to the chapter meeting.

## District Kicks off St. Nicholas Ranch AHEPA/DOP dorm renovation



Ranch dorm dedication group included (l-r) Dr. Peter Scamagas, Ranch Director Mike Pappas, Fr. Jim Pappas, Robert Sexton PDG PSG, George Gianopulos, Helen Sexton PDG, District Marshal Garret Buck, DOP District Secretary Mary Gavrilis Michael Makredes, DOP District Governor Bev Kennedy and Project Chairman Tom Chiarchianis PDG.

October 21, 2015– Members of the District Lodges and the Fresno chapters gathered at St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat Center for a rededication and blessing of the AHEPA/DOP boys dorm. The ceremony was led by Fr. Jim Pappas, a brother of the chapter. District Governor Bev Kennedy and Past District Governor Tom Chiarchianis represented the two district lodges. Brother Tom stressed the importance of education to the order and noted that the ranch served that purpose. Sister Beverly issued a challenge to the district to make good on the commitment to complete the renovation. The first phase of four is expected to be complete by the end of the year. The remaining work will depend on funding.

## Fall District Conference Well Attended



The joint session of the Fall Conference. District Governor Bill Anton leads the discussions while the sisters of the DOP District Lodge enjoy their new uniforms.

October 31, 2016- The 2015 Fall Conference took place in San Jose, hosted by the San Jose AHEPA Family chapters. About sixty brothers and sisters attended. The DOP District Lodge dressed for the spirit of the day, it being Halloween. Most discussions centered around the St. Nicholas Ranch dorm renovation project. In the individual meeting, the state of the district scholarship fund was discussed at length. Scholarship Committee Chairman, Tom Chiarchianis reminded the brothers that all ideas regarding the fund were welcome and he invited the brothers to submit their thoughts to him by e-mail. The members attending from Fresno were brothers Bill Booras PDG and Robert Sexton PDG PSG and sister Helen Sexton PDG.

## Meet Brother Talbert Simonian



Brother Talbert joined our chapter this spring but needs little introduction to most of the membership. A member of the St. Goerge parish for many years, his talent for keeping things running is almost legendary.

Brother Talbert is a native of the valley. He graduated from Central High in 1980. He is a diesel mechanic and worked for Agricultural Commodities for 17 years but now works for Fresno Truck Center for the last four years. He has added Electronic Specialist to his job description.

Married to Melanie for 23 years, they have two sons, Matt and Jared. His interests include Kendo and rugby. Though recent injuries have put him on the sidelines, he maintains a keen interest in both sports.

### Some Housekeeping Matters...

*The Grapevine* is now distributed by e-mail, except to those few members who do not have e-mail access. Just as with your home address, we need your correct e-mail address. Changes do occur from time to time. People move. Sometimes they are using their business address and change jobs. Believe me, brothers, I have had to change my address a number of times over the years.

In the event of a change of e-mail address, be sure to let the chapter know. If you change e-mail address, you should make it a practice to let everyone know by sending a change notice.

### Get Connected!

Whether you are a web junkie or not, the internet holds a number of ways to stay current with AHEPA.

Websites: Look for [www.ahepa.org](http://www.ahepa.org) for national information. Many of the forms and other information are present or downloadable from the national site. A wealth of links to AHEPA related sites are also found here.

Our district website is [www.ahepa21.org](http://www.ahepa21.org). As with the national site, district information along with event pages and the district calendar are maintained here.