



You Heard it through...

THE GRAPEVINE

April, 2016

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April Meeting, Thursday, Apr 14, 7 PM

See What You Missed at Our March Meeting, A Super St. Patricks Day Treat




If there is anything to look forward to at our monthly meetings, it would be the refreshments so graciously provided by our Daughters of Penelope Leto Chapter. Not only do they provide delicious deserts, juices and coffee, but it comes attractively presented with a theme. Last month was no exception. Sister Evelyn Boosalis made her offering with an Irish flair, reflecting the fact that St. Patrick's Day occurs in March.

It should be noted that St. Patrick, whom Wikipedia describes as "Romano-British", is an Orthodox Saint, having come to Ireland in the fifth century, centuries before the Great Schism. Known as the "Apostle of Ireland", he is regarded as the founder of Christianity in Ireland, and, according to legend, drove out the snakes.

In America, St. Patrick's Day is usually celebrated by feasting on corned beef and cabbage. However you may regard it, there is no such custom in Ireland.



<p><u>Chapter Officers for 2015-2016</u></p> <p>President Michael Gomez Vice President Michael Stavropoulos Secretary Robert Sexton PSG Treasurer Jim Boukidis</p>	<p><u>Board of Governors</u></p> <p>Chairman Michael Makredes George Gianopulos Ted Nassar Steve Alfieris Alex Aretakis</p>
<p>Have You paid Your Dues?</p> <p>The current dues status shows 20 brothers paid for 2016. Not bad, but that still leaves 19 not yet paid. That does not include life members. Please, brothers, make your dues payment as soon as possible. Your support is appreciated!</p>	<p>April Birthdays</p> <p>Dr. Con Michas Fr. Jim Pappas Dr. Ted Nassar Kopi Sotiropulos</p> 

About This Issue

With the beginning of the 2015-16 term, our chapter bulletin took 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.

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. And remember, if you don't show up, your picture won't get in the bulletin.

Meet Brother Pete Rokas



bout in 1971.

Brother Pete Rokas with his certificate of induction into the California Boxing Hall of Fame.

Most recently, Brother Pete was inducted into the California Boxing Hall of Fame. Following in the same vein, he is our chapter candidate for the Northern California AHEPA Athletic Hall of Fame.

Brother Pete, now a healthy 83, has been a member since 1968. And he never stepped in the ring.

Right- A cover for the Central Valley Boxing Club newsletter from 1959. The caption reads "SERIOUS –Bandit Ben Medina weighed 143 pounds yesterday before his workout. He must make 137 pounds for his bout tomorrow night with Joey Lopez. Connie Klein, Central Valley Boxing Club promoter, left, and Matchmaker Pete Rokas, right look on in a worried mood"

It is one thing to have a lifelong passion. It is often quite another to make a living at it. Brother Pete Rokas did just that. It didn't start out that way. After graduating from Fresno High School in 1951, Pete did a stint in the Army, training to be an X-ray technician. When he returned home, it was to make a life as an X-ray technician. That didn't last, but only because he had been introduced to the sport of boxing at the age of 8 by an uncle who took him to watch the fights at Ryan's Auditorium.

That experience sparked that long lasting interest and by the time he was 26, he was arranging matches. In 1969, he was an officially sanctioned boxing promoter. It was a career that lasted nearly 30 years, with Brother Pete involved in many major matches, including closed-circuit televised showings of fights such as the Mohammed Ali-Joe Frasier



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. (Of course, there may be someone you don't want to include, but don't leave us out.) This is something that we cannot know if you don't tell us. And that goes for any of your contact information. AHEPA HQ makes a Change of Address form available on the national website at www.ahepa.org. It is available as a doc file or a fillable pdf. You can send it to me because as chapter secretary, I am responsible for the chapter records. I will send it on to HQ to save you the trouble of sending multiple reports.

You may also be aware that a district database is being constructed as well. I am responsible for that effort so any changes sent to me will certainly be added to the district database. That database, by the way, will include more information than is maintained by HQ and will ultimately serve to make the district even more effective. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Keep us informed, brothers!

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 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. As with the national site, district information along with event pages and the district calendar are maintained here.

Facebook: This is a great way to keep tabs on happenings in AHEPA (as well as everything else of interest to you) and there is a district Facebook page which you can "like". When you do, you will be automatically informed about district happenings, complete with pictures.

E-mail: Our national organization produces a e-bulletin which you can have sent to your e-mail address. Click on the AHEPA e-news link on the national website and enter your e-mail address. It is that simple and you really should do it, if you want to know what your national AHEPA is up to.

Feedback Wanted

What has been left out of this bulletin? What can we leave out? Do you want e-mail from HQ or elsewhere forwarded? Let us know so we can make this bulletin even more effective. Input is always welcome. Send your comments to rdsexton57@gmail.com.

- 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!