



Daughters of Penelope
New Member Webinar

December 3, 2020

Together We Are Stronger
Together We Thrive

Who are the Daughters of Penelope?

- Multi generational International Women's Organization
- Our story began in San Francisco, CA in 1929 by Alexandra Apostolides Sonenfeld
- Affiliate to the Order of AHEPA
- Junior Orders: Maids of Athena and Sons of Pericles



My Story is NOT Unique

- WE were an AHEPA Family
- Attended events from young
- Initiated at 18
- First impressions
- Mother's influence
- Followed my own path
- 1984-88, 1993-94, 2016
- AND NOW

About Us – History & Mission

Mission Statement

- The Mission of the Daughters of Penelope is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, Family and Individual Excellence.

A Unique Family of Excellence

- The Daughters of Penelope was the realization of Alexandra Apostolides' dream. Her desire was to create a woman's organization and because of her perseverance and the encouragement of her husband Dr. Emanuel Apostolides, a devoted AHEPAN, she formed EOS Chapter#1 with 25 charter members on November 16, 1929 in San Francisco, California. She was elected the first Grand President of the organization in 1931.

Education – the Key to Leadership

- The Daughters of Penelope's commitment to education has been well documented throughout its history. The Daughters of Penelope Foundation, Inc. continues in its pursuit to develop new and more responsive ways to meet our community's responsibility in creating a better learning environment for our children. It provides scholarships on an international basis to a wide variety of students. Recipients are high school seniors, college and post-graduate students all looking to become tomorrow's leaders.

About Us – History & Mission

Our Grass Roots Strength has a Voice

- Through its members, the Daughters of Penelope communicates to elected representatives at the federal, state, and local levels, as well as diplomatic leaders, the positions of the Greek-American community on issues of concern to it. These positions are based upon our American heritage and ideals with the best interest of the United States in mind. The Daughters of Penelope educates its members about these issues through seminars and conferences, providing expert panelists from the U.S. Administration and from well-respected Washington Think Tanks. The Daughters of Penelope is able to mobilize over 300 chapters (chartered in every metropolitan city) which truly make it a unique organization.

Philanthropy

- Philanthropy and Volunteerism have been pillars throughout the country for the Daughters of Penelope over its many years of existence. From natural disaster relief, to raising funds to eliminate life threatening diseases, to making significant contributions to our local municipalities, the Daughters of Penelope is at the forefront of charitable giving. Yet, this only scratches the surface of the numerous philanthropic works of the association. Countless philanthropic projects are also undertaken by Daughters of Penelope chapters and districts and eventually become national projects.

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Providing Affordable Senior Housing

- It is also our civic responsibility to provide affordable housing to senior citizens. The AHEPA Housing Corporation has been awarded over \$400 million from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The total number of senior housing complexes stands at 91, with 4,753 units complete, and more in development.

Recognizing Athletics

- The Daughters of Penelope recognize female athletes at the high school, collegiate, and professional levels with scholarships, accolades and in some cases, induction into our Athletic Hall of Fame.

The Ideals of Ancient Greece Important to All

- Throughout the span of its history, the Daughters of Penelope has served as a vital vehicle for the progressive development and emergence of many American citizens of Greek heritage into every facet of society: government, business, education, and the arts. This fulfillment illustrates the promise of the American Dream and symbolizes the hard work ethic of our immigrant forbearers who labored to achieve that dream with the principles of Hellenism rooted deep in their hearts.

What are our strengths?

- Our membership is our greatest strength
- Our friendships
- Our commitment
- Our willingness to learn
- Our shared experiences
- Our “Philotimo” which is about goodness, selflessness, giving without wanting anything in return and the force that drives us to think about the people and the world around us.

What do we do?

- We laugh a lot
- We organize events and fundraise towards our charitable efforts and programs
- We go for Coffee! Lunch! Dinner! We eat a lot!
- We belong to a book club
- We become friends

What do we do?



What can the
Daughters of
Penelope do
for you?

- Offer friendship
- Feeling of belonging
- Leadership opportunities
- Networking
- Travel (one day soon)
- Share ideas
- Learn from each other

Where do you
go from here?

- If you are interested in joining the friend who introduced you to the Daughters can be your mentor and can walk you through the membership process
- Check out our website www.daughtersofpenelope.org for more information
- Visit our youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtx9xETabHJ49AMfTaZRdpw>
- Email me at vkachmarski@shaw.ca