

# The Maids of Athena Neophyte Manual

*Women are going to form a chain, a greater sisterhood than the world has ever known.*

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## WHAT IS THE MAIDS OF ATHENA?

The Maids of Athena is an international philanthropic and fraternal organization, a sisterhood of young women of Hellenic descent and philhellenes, and a Junior Order of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA) and the Junior Auxiliary of the Daughters of Penelope.

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MAIDS OF ATHENA

Mr. Thomas D. Lentgis, the Supreme Governor of the Order of AHEPA, founded the Maids of Athena on July 5, 1930 in Tacoma, Washington. At the time, the first chapter Sparta #1 was founded with 12 original members; however, a charter was not granted until November 18, 1937.

Charters were then granted to Alethea #2 in Seattle, Washington, Diana #3 in Portland Oregon, And Ariadne #4 in Vancouver, British Columbia. By the end of 1937, there were 20 chapters and a total of 444 members.

The first constitution and ritual were written in 1935. At the 1950 Supreme Convention in Cleveland, the Maids of Athena officially became the Junior Auxiliary of the Daughters of Penelope. In 1953, the first National Conference of the Maids of Athena was held in Houston, Texas. The first Maids of Athena Grand Lodge was elected in 1954 at the Pittsburgh Conference.

## IDEALS OF THE MAIDS OF ATHENA

Each Maid of Athena member should strive to achieve and embody the ideals of our order; Truth, Goodness, and Beauty.

**Truth** in thought, word, and deed; in being true to fellow sisters and the goals, principles, and philosophies of the Maids of Athena.

**Goodness** in thought, word, and deed; in being good of heart and allowing that to radiate outward and in all that you do, in treating your sisters with kindness, in remembering those less fortunate, in being selfless in all that you undertake, in looking for the good in all things, and in keeping in mind the Good of the Order.

**Beauty** in thought, word, and deed; in being a beautiful person, in having a beautiful and kind soul, in seeing the beauty of all, in representing the beauty of Athena, through intellect, strength, rationality, and steadfastness.

## SORORITY

Sisterhood is the foundation of a sorority. Sororities bring together a group of diverse women that share common goals and interests, both personal and those of the sorority. By joining the Maids of Athena, you will become part of the larger international organization and find your sisters all across the globe.

Membership in the MOA is one of the most outstanding means of discovering and redefining your leadership potential. Within each chapter, members have a chance to assume a wide variety of leadership roles at the chapter, district or national levels.

Sororities build strength and character. They enhance confidence and drive, can offer you scholastic support, hands on experience, interaction with faculty and administrators, exposure to potential careers through educational speakers, networking, and discussions, and the chance to give back to the community through service projects and close friends who will cheer you on when times are rough.

### **Remember...**

A sister takes your hand and leads you along paths that you would fear exploring alone. She gives you comfort, support, and strength. She is the person you want to experience the good and bad with, the one you call first with good news to celebrate together, cry when you are overwhelmed, the one whose response is important. A sister is your confidante, your cheerleader, your conscience, and your sense of reason. During the best and worst of times, she is there.

***Sisterhood is not a destination, but a journey.***

# The Objectives

*(Article 2 of the Maids of Athena Constitution)*

- ❖ To promote and instill the spirit of **patriotism**; allegiance to the flag; support the **Constitution**, obedience to the laws and reverence for **history** and **tradition** of the United States of America, Canada, and Greece.
- ❖ To stimulate love for, and appreciation of **Hellenic culture, traditions** and **ideals**; to promote a better and more comprehensive understanding of the Hellenic people; and to encourage the study of **Hellenic letters, arts** and **sciences** as our best contribution to the United States of America, Canada, Bahamas and Greece.
- ❖ **To promote high standards of ethics and fellowship.**
- ❖ To develop human **understanding, kindness** and **helpfulness**; to stimulate and encourage **education**; and to foster the growth and enhancement of **charity**.
- ❖ **To further the ideals of obedience and respect towards parents and elders.**
- ❖ **To assist the Orders of AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope** in carrying out the **aims** and **purposes** of our parent organizations.
- ❖ **To cooperate** with and **assist** the chapters if the Daughters of Penelope in promoting the progress and welfare of both the Senior and Junior Women's Auxiliaries of the Order of AHEPA; and to **prepare our members for admission into the Order of the Daughters of Penelope.**

## Mythological Background of Athena

The order of the Maids of Athena is dedicated to the principles and virtues symbolizing the goddess Athena of ancient Greek mythology. Athena sprang forth fully armed from the head of Zeus.

As a protector of cities, Athena was the Goddess of War – defensive and prudent warfare as opposed to brute force and rashness. Athena was entrusted with the Aegis of Zeus, a breastplate which is usually represented by a golden fleece. When shaken, it produced a thunderstorm which could disperse enemies and protect friends. The Aegis of Athena, incorporating Fear, Fight, Force and Pursuit, had a Gorgon in the center. The Gorgon (or Medusa) was a terrible monster in Greek mythology with a round ugly face, snakes instead of hair and eyes that could transform people into stone (Medusa was one of the Gorgons). Along with the Aegis, Athena wore a warrior's helmet and carried a spear.

Athena was the Goddess of Agriculture and Navigation, and peaceful pursuits in general, which is symbolized by the olive branch.

As Patroness of the Arts, she introduced spinning, weaving and invented the flute.

As Goddess of Wisdom, Athena was looked upon as a moral and righteous divinity, symbolized by the owl.

As the Chief of Virgin Deities, she was called Athena Parthenos. The temple of Parthenon was thus named and dedicated to her.

# The AHEPA Family

AHEPA, an acronym for American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, was founded in 1922, in Atlanta, Georgia. When the Greek people migrated to America, they came full of hope and aspirations; however, in some cases, what they found was discrimination and bitterness. As foreigners, they had to find their place in the American community. With determination and faith, they created a new culture, a Greek/American/Canadian culture that would be envied and respected by all. These men decided that only by strong organization could they be recognized in the American community. Thus, AHEPA was born. The AHEPA family consists of four Orders. The Senior Orders are the AHEPA and the Daughters of Penelope. The Junior Orders are the Sons of Pericles and the Maids of Athena.

## Order of AHEPA

The Order of AHEPA represents Faith, Justice, Hope, Power and Peace. Perhaps the most striking element is the sign of the cross upon their crest. Its purpose may be to remind us of the burdens we have to bear and that we should imitate the Biblical example of sharing the burdens of our Brothers and Sisters whose cross is heavier than ours.

## Daughters of Penelope

The Maids of Athena is a preparatory period to the Daughters of Penelope. It is through their guidance that we achieve our goals. Penelope was the wife of Odysseus, King of Ithaca. While her husband was away – at battle and then, lost at sea – she spent her days weaving a robe, claiming (to her many suitors) that she would only re-marry when the robe was complete. Every night, she unraveled what she had woven by day, therefore remaining faithful and steadfast to the sanctity of her home. Thus, the Daughters of Penelope symbolize all the noble virtues found in the character of Penelope.

## Sons of Pericles

The Sons of Pericles are the future AHEPAns. Pericles became the most powerful political leader in ancient Greece for a period of about 30 years beginning in 460 BC. It was during his rule, the age of Pericles or the Golden Age, that Greece came to stand for all that was highest in the arts and sciences. As a united AHEPA Family, we strive to promote better and more comprehensive understanding of the Hellenic peoples and nation. As well, we strive to revive, cultivate, enrich and marshal into active service for humanity the noblest attributes and highest ideals of true Hellenism. By working together, we gain a common bond of harmony and respect.

# The Philosophy

- ❖ The Maids of Athena is a living and learning experience, a microcosm of the world at large where a young woman can grow and seek life's answers as she realizes the potential of her individuality through constructive means.
- ❖ The Maids of Athena is not a singular experience but interwoven with the thread of humanity: to seek, to grow, to become, hand in hand with one's Sisters.
- ❖ The Maids of Athena is the embracement of ARETE: Virtue in the Ancient Greek sense: an all-encompassing excellence through self-knowledge and individual perfection, which will ultimately benefit society.
- ❖ The Maids of Athena is concerned with building character, spiritually, intellectually, and socially. The virtues of Athena and ancient Greek ARETE are meant to prepare and guide young women to lead socially productive lives. Not only through the aims and ideals of the Order, but also through the numerous activities, programs, and strong bonds of friendship provided by the structure of our sisterhood.
- ❖ The goals and ideals of our Sisterhood are meant to capture the glory and grandeur of Ancient Greece, which gave the world so much artistically and philosophically. As well, to inspire the individual to heights which lead Pericles to exclaim, "that Athens is the School of Greece and the individual Athenian is his own person seems to have the powers of adapting himself to the most varied forms of action with the utmost versatility and grace."
- ❖ The Ancient Greeks did not feel that every man was free to fashion his own destiny, but that being what he is, he should make the most of himself. This belief gave importance and responsibility to the individual to allow him to develop in his own way. The important thing was that he should reveal his powers in ARETE and become the kind of person who is at once a full human being and a member of the society.
- ❖ The Greeks were the first to develop this sense of individuality, which is irrevocably mixed with the sense of citizenship of community. Man has a duty not only onto himself, but also a responsibility for the welfare of the entire society in which he lives. The Greeks always saw things as parts of a whole; and the harmony they sought in literature, government, science, and the arts was a balance of excellence.
- ❖ "I am a lover of knowledge and men are my teachers," said Socrates. As a living/learning experience or microcosm of the world, the MOA exposes young women to many experiences which will help release the powers of her ARETE as she reaches for her individual excellence and potential in all areas. Therefore, she learns about herself and others.

❖ As an experience in humanity, the MOA means friendship. The Sisterhood teaches the joys and benefits derived from strong and true friendships. “Seek not your friend with hours to kill, but with hours to LIVE.” – The Prophet.

❖ The MOA goal is to experience the joys and sorrows of life with the comfort and companionship of your sisters. To rejoice in life and to find the world beautiful and delightful to live in was a mark of the Greek spirit. Today, it is part of the Greek ethnic element from which MOA are descended and strive to preserve. The ZORBA-like exuberance for life and work, the music, food, language, and religion are all essential ingredients of GREEK PRIDE. The MOA is dedicated to the principles underlying the family and cherishes the close ties of the family. This relationship is personified by the AHEPA Family. Each Order is separate but united in purpose, ideals and mutual respect.

❖ Membership in the MOA implies a duty and responsibility: to oneself, to the Order, and to society. The member begins her journey as a neophyte and leaves the Order as a Maid of Athena, a leader, a teacher, a friend... a fully developed individual whose activities and contributions serve as an example for others to follow and provide the mainstay of society.

# The Maids of Athena Crest



The crest's main part is in the shape of a shield representing the growth of intellectual thought. In its center is a Doric column, representing our stability and fortitude, enclosed by a triangle. The three sides of the triangle represent **Truth, Goodness, and Beauty**.

The Greek key at the top of the triangle represents an eternal link between the value of the past and the hope of the future. Below the triangle is our sorority letters ΠΑ which stands for Παρθενες Της Αθηνας.

Above the shield is Athena, balanced on both sides by a laurel wreath that symbolizes Victory and Leadership. Draping the shield are two olive branches symbolizing Peace.

Below the shield floats a ribbon with the word ARETE – Virtue in the ancient Greek sense meaning an all-encompassing excellence through self-knowledge and individual perfection – and the year of founding, 1930.

Official crest colors are blue and gold. The blue background of the shield stands for truth and faithfulness. The remaining parts in gold represent fineness in character.

## What is in ΠΑ for you?

The benefits to be gained from membership in our Order are infinite in nature, depending upon your desire to excel. However, those most easily within reach for every member are:

- **OPPORTUNITY** for a new world of friendships
- **OPPORTUNITY** for education through scholarships and leadership conferences
- **OPPORTUNITY** to strengthen character through leadership and participation
- **OPPORTUNITY** to broaden your horizons through travel, experience, and sisterhood
- **OPPORTUNITY** to participate in many social, educational and charitable activities

### **What are your responsibilities as a Maid of Athena?**

In joining an International Sisterhood, you must accept certain responsibilities. In order to benefit, each member must do her utmost for the good of the Order.

Make it your individual responsibility to:

- **RESPECT** the laws and rules of our Order
- **BE LOYAL** and steadfast to the Maids
- **BE HELPFUL** and true to the Sisters of the Order
- **LIVE UP** to the principles and ideals of the Maids of Athena

### **NATIONAL CONVENTION**

Once a year, Maids of Athena, as well as all other members of the AHEPA Family, from all over the United States and Canada come together to conduct the business of the Order. The Convention has been held in many different locations and changes from year to year. Business meetings take place during the day. The nights are filled with events such as Greek Night, After Hours events and mixers. Another highlight of the week is the Maids of Athena and Sons of Pericles Awards Breakfast. At that time, the Grand and Supreme Lodges recognize outstanding achievement over the past year and present National Awards.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

Annually, the Maids of Athena award several scholarships to deserving young women. These scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic merit, financial need, and MOA participation. Many MOA districts sponsor scholarships as well.

Financial aid for post-secondary education is also available through the Order of Ahepa and the Daughters of Penelope. The AHEPA Educational Foundation works hard to keep the Hellenic value and tradition of higher education alive. Contact AHEPA Headquarters if you want more information.

### **PROGRAMS SPONSORED BY THE ORDER OF AHEPA**

Building on the solid foundation of the highly successful Journey to Greece (JTG) programs that have been offered since 2006, AHEPA and Webster University are once again offering an unforgettable learning experience for new and returning college age students.

The Journey to Greece program, which is sponsored by AHEPA, has been specially designed to immerse young students in a wonderful learning experience celebrating Greek society and culture. New courses, exciting excursions and special arrangements make the Journey especially attractive to returning students. AHEPA adult advisors will help supervise the students while they attend the program.



# OUR INTERNATIONAL STRUCTURE

## Grand Lodge Officers

The Grand Lodge of the Maids of Athena consists of the Grand President, Grand Vice President, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and one or more Grand Governors. The Lodge strives to unite every chapter and district in our Order. They maintain a common bond of Sisterhood and work diligently to uphold the Constitution and promote the ideals and goals of the Maids of Athena. The Grand President must unite Districts, Chapters and members, preside at all meetings of her Lodge and see that they perform their duties faithfully, and appoint members as National Committee Chairpersons. She must officially represent and reflect the poise and dignity of the Maids of Athena. The job of every Grand Lodge member is equally important for the betterment of the Order.

The Grand Vice President, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and the Grand Governors are expected to support and aid the Grand President. They are each given districts to counsel and guide to their fullest potential. As a Liaison Officer, she is obligated to report to the Grand President on the progress of each of her districts.

## National Advisor

The National Advisor directly supervises activities of the Grand Lodge. She attends all meetings, advises on proper procedure, and gives approval on all important issues and actions. In addition, she must submit an annual report to the Daughters of Penelope for consideration at the Supreme Convention. She is a direct link to chapter and district advisors throughout the MOA domain.

## Supreme Headquarters

Supreme Headquarters is located at 1909 Q Street, NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC, 20009. Here, all four Orders of the AHEPA family have offices and handle the administrative aspects of the organization. From HQ, ritual books, constitution, bulletins and other Pi Alpha paraphernalia are distributed, and all records of dues and obligations are kept on file here, as well as all correspondence pertaining to the Maids.

1909 Q Street NW Suite 500

Washington, DC 20009 USA

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# The District

26 geographical Districts comprise the AHEPA Family domain.

## **District Convention**

Delegates from each chapter convene once yearly to legislate resolutions and recommendations. These dedicated members have the following objective – to develop a program that will add to the efficiency, organization and progress of their individual district. These legislative resolutions are then submitted to the Supreme Convention for consideration. At the final meeting of the District Convention, the delegates elect District Officers who will maintain the by-laws of the Order and effectively carry out the decisions of the District Convention.

## **District Lodge Officers**

The District Lodge is made up of five officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary, Treasurer and Marshall. These officers are expected to organize and arouse interest within their district and through their respective chapters. In order to have a successful district, frequent and direct contact with each chapter is necessary. By unifying the chapters within a district, the Lodge strengthens the potential of each individual chapter. They are expected to report to the Grand Lodge on the condition and progress of the chapters within the district.

## **District Governor**

The District Governor is directly responsible for the progress and success of the chapters within her district. She is expected to visit each chapter at least twice a year. She is required to prepare a written report on the condition of her district. As well, she must keep in close contact with the District Lodge Officers, District Advisor and the Grand Lodge Liaison officer to her district.

## **District Lodge**

The District Lodge Officers serve as a liaison to chapters within the district, and are expected to guide and assist her individual chapters in any way possible. They are required to prepare three written reports on the progress of their liaison chapters. The **District Lieutenant Governor** is expected to assist the Governor in the execution of her duties and perform any additional duties designated by the Governor. The **District Secretary** must attend all meetings of the District Lodge and keep an accurate record of all business transacted. She also serves as Chairman of the District Convention Credential Committee. The **District Treasurer** receives all money belonging to the district and issues receipts for the same. She must sign all checks, which are countersigned by the District Governor and the District Advisor. She is expected to prepare a budget annually to be presented at the District Convention. The **District Marshall** is expected to help organize new chapters and encourage enthusiasm amongst the active chapters. She also ensures that proper protocol is followed for any district visitation or district affair.

## **District Advisor**

The District Advisor supervises the activities of the Maids of Athena District Lodge. She must attend all business meetings of the Convention and submit written report to both District and National Conventions of the Daughters of Penelope and the Maids of Athena. As well, she countersigns all check pertaining to the district treasury.

## **THE CHAPTER**

There are approximately 35 active Chapters in the United States and Canada. These are comprised of individuals just like you, all striving towards the ideals and goals of our Order. The various officers of a Maids of Athena Chapter must be filled by members who meet the qualifications and are willing to perform the duties as specified by the Constitution.

All of the Officers must be ambitious, hardworking, and sensitive who are UNITED in their efforts to lead their Chapter through a successful year.

There are eight members who make up the Officers; Worthy Maid, Loyal Maid, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Delphis, Phylax and Messenger.

### **Worthy Maid**

The Chapter Worthy Maid is also known as the Chapter President. She must, at all times, serve as a leader and motivator for the members in her chapter. She must be knowledgeable of rules, regulations and obligations governing the Order. Although the Chapter President should appoint others to do the work, it is her responsibility to see that everything is done properly and efficiently.

### **Chapter Officers**

The Loyal Maid is also known as the Chapter Vice-President. Being second in command, she assumes the duties of the Worthy Maid when she is unable to fulfill them. It is her duty to be the Chapter News reporter and publicity person.

The Recording Secretary is responsible for keeping complete and accurate minutes of each chapter meeting. She records attendance at meetings and collects dues and issues receipts.

The Corresponding Secretary is in charge of all incoming and outgoing correspondence. She has the important job of informing all Chapter members and Advisors of upcoming events and/or meetings. As well, she helps keep the District Lodge and Grand Lodge informed about chapter activities.

The Treasurer is responsible for any and all money belonging to the Chapter and must keep an accurate record of the Chapter's financial status. She, as well as the Chapter President and Advisor, signs all checks.

The Phylax is responsible for all Chapter paraphernalia and for keeping a detailed record of the property.

The Delphis has the important job of establishing the spiritual atmosphere of the meetings by offering the opening and closing prayers.

The Messenger has one of the most important jobs, especially during the Rites of Initiation and during an official ceremony. She escorts visiting dignitaries and generally establishes the proper setting for elections and initiations.

In addition to the regularly elected officers, there are several appointed officers and standing committee chairmanship positions available.

# Goals, Principles, and Ideals

- ❖ **Sisterhood** – Association or unification of women in a common cause.
- ❖ **Service** – An act of assistance or benefit to another or others; favor.
- ❖ **Citizenship** – The status of a citizen with its attendant duties, rights, and privileges.
- ❖ **Hellenism** – The adoption of Greek ideas, style, or culture.
- ❖ **Family** – A group of persons sharing a common ancestry.
- ❖ **Arete** – Greek for Virtue.

# Qualifications for Membership

Any unmarried Christian girl of good moral character who is of Greek descent from either parent (including adopted or foster), is immediately related to a member in good standing of the AHEPA or Daughters of Penelope, or is a philhellene, and in addition, possesses the following special qualifications shall be eligible for membership in this order:

*She shall have passed her 14<sup>th</sup> year of age, but not yet reached her 28<sup>th</sup>.*

1. All members must complete an application and be initiated into the Maids of Athena.
2. All applications for membership must be completed in full by the applicant and properly endorsed.
3. When the application is completed and the member is initiated, the following **MUST** be mailed to headquarters immediately:
  - a. Completed Application Form
  - b. National Membership Dues (full year)
  - c. Initiation Fee (One time fee)

## *Dual Membership*

- ❖ MOA and DOP – 21 (Optional) and 23 (Mandatory)

## Current Fees

Membership - \$ **20.00**      Initiation - \$ **10.00**      Reinstatement - \$ **5.00**

**Member in Good Standing:** attend at least 4 meetings a year; pay annual dues

# **You, The Member**

“Member” is defined by Webster’s Dictionary as “...a limb, part, of a body, any part, portion: division... a distinct part or element of a whole.

The building block and backbone of any organization is its members. Each member represents the life-blood of a Chapter, the veins and arteries of the whole. The individual member is the most important segment of the MOA!

The Maids of Athena offers rich and varied opportunities for the individual to meet and exchange ideas with many people, to strengthen ties of friendship, and to learn from others. A member must first and foremost realize that her membership entails responsibilities and obligations. It is through her efforts, untiring devotion, dignity, integrity, love and respect that Order succeeds.

“You only get from the Maids of Athena what you put into it.” Everything depends upon the attitude, enthusiasm, creativity and willingness of the individual to give of herself to achieve the goals, principles, and ideals of the Maids of Athena. The Maids of Athena is an organization established for the individual and full benefits are there for the taking, so reach out.

During your initiation into our Order you will experience part of the mystery that cannot be revealed through this manual. You will experience the true beauty and love we are eager to share with you.

## **THE MOA PROGRAM**

The basic MOA program is initially designed to motivate the membership in attaining the goals of our Order and reflects the principles of our Sisterhood.

### **Charity**

The Maids of Athena are constantly striving to aid and assist mankind through its many charitable activities. National charities are supplemented by additional Chapter and District projects. Charitable activities form a major portion of all MOA projects.

### **Education**

The MOA educational program is geared toward leadership and citizenship in service to society and the Order. Members are encouraged to take part in the many workshops, seminars and conferences sponsored on District and National levels. These meetings include many qualified and interesting speakers and provide each member with the knowledge and motivation necessary to progress in the Order and society.

### **Civic**

Members are encouraged at all times to be of service to their communities. The MOA promotes several civic programs which include Ecology, Drugs and Mental Health.

### **Growth and Expansion/Rush**

The main life of our organization is the member. Chapters are continually working towards building a strong and interested membership. Quality membership is achieved through a structured system of rushing. A Rush Program is beneficial in attracting new potential members to our Order. As a finale to a Rush Program, many chapters/districts hold impressive mass initiations to welcome our new sisters.

### **Arts and Letters**

The AtheNEA and District newsletters are fine examples of the Order's contribution to the arts. These publications provide Maids and Sons the opportunity to express and develop their artistic talents and share them with other Sisters and Brothers.

### **Athletic**

Developing one's physical capacities is part of developing a total individual. Many districts sponsor tournaments in volleyball, basketball, baseball, bowling and floor hockey. Nationally, chapters may enter teams in regional basketball tournaments. These events have been highly successful in stimulating healthy competition between chapters and uniting Sisters from across the United States and Canada through the spirit of competition.

### **Social**

Last, but not least, are the social functions that round out a total MOA program. An endless list of exciting events are held by individual chapters or districts -and sometimes in conjunction with the other members of the AHEPA Family.

## **MAIDS OF ATHENA GLOSSARY**

**INFORMAL MEETING:** Is just that... informal! It's a chapter meeting where the Order of Business is followed in an Informal setting. There's no dress code at informal meetings, so come as you are!

**RITUAL MEETING:** Also called a formal meeting. It's a chapter meeting at which the ritual ceremony as described in the Book of Rituals Is performed. SKIRTS or DRESSES must be worn to all ritual meetings. No food, drink, or smoking is permitted.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:** An open forum at the end of the meeting where you, the member, or anyone presents at the chapter meeting may become vocal. You can make announcements about upcoming birthdays, engagements, events, or give your opinion on a matter. Take advantage of the Good of the Order by speaking up... only in this way will the lines of communication, which are vital to the organization's survival, remain open.

**DISTRICT CONVENTION:** A convention attended by the entire AHEPA family of a district (usually in May or June) where the new District Lodges are elected by delegates from each chapter and recommendations and resolutions are heard and voted on so that they can be passed on to the Supreme Convention for voting